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LUCY'S PATCH: Heads will roll as our regular columnist Lucy Hewett gets down to the important task of pruning
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The biggest police mystery of all-time?

Exclusive survey reveals county in dark over top job

- Three out of four unaware of crime commissioner election
- Nine out of 10 don't recognise any of the front runners
- Fears voting turnout could be as low as 15 per cent

SPECIAL REPORT by Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

IT is one of the most significant changes to the way our police force is run – but just months before we go to the polls we reveal a shocking ignorance on the role of Kent's new Police and Crime Commissioner.

In an exclusive survey conducted by Archant KOS Media, we can reveal 75 per cent of those quizzed knew nothing about the upcoming elections and more than nine out of ten people had no idea who the main candidates were — even when shown their photographs and names.

We sent teams across the county to quiz people on the street about the role which will govern Kent Police, control its budgets, hire and fire its Chief Constable and have the power to change policing across the county.

But most people surveyed in Medway, Sittingbourne, Tunbridge Wells, Ashford, Canterbury, Hythe, Ramsgate, Dover and Folkestone were left scratching their heads.

So just what is the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner in Kent? And why should you care?

For the full story, survey results and all the information you need to know about how you will be electing the most powerful figure in county policing, see inside.

CRIME

Serious sex offences rise

THE latest crime figures are out, showing a drop in offences overall in Kent.

But the number of serious sex offences has soared dramatically, an increase being blamed on a rise in historic sex crimes being reported. Fresh calls have been made for 24/7 help services. PAGE 5

TRAVEL

Commuters in 2012 warning

COMMUTERS are getting ready for Monday's travel chaos as the London Games finally arrive this weekend.

Train users and motorists are being urged to get prepared as the number of people using our rail and road network looks set to soar by more than 400,000 each day. PAGE 9

CRICKET

England duo set to impress

A PROUD day awaits Kent Cricket Club as two of its star players take to the crease for England in the Under-19 Cricket World Cup in Australia.

Adam Ball and Daniel Bell-Drummond look set to impress as two key members of the squad; one as captain and the other star batsman PAGE 78

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LAND ROVER

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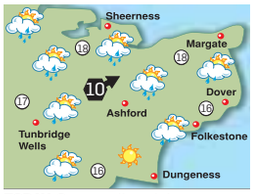

TODAY: Sunny spells and showers, some heavy with the risk of thunder. Max temp 15-18C (59-64F). **TONIGHT:** Dry with clear spells. Min temp 9-12C (48-54F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	07.55	5.7	20.33	5.9
Margate	08.48	4.1	21.27	4.3
St Mary's	01.20	4.6	14.03	4.7

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 19C	Min 12C
Tuesday	Max 20C	Min 13C
Wednesday	Max 20C	Min 13C
Thursday	Max 20C	Min 13C
Friday	Max 20C	Min 12C
Saturday	Max 20C	Min 13C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

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US SHOOTING

Kent beauty 'horrified' by killer's use of photo

A GLAMOUR model has expressed her disgust at being a pin-up girl for Denver gunman James Holmes.

Former Page 3 model Keeley Hazell, who grew up in Bromley, said she was "horrified" to find the suspected killer had a poster of her on his wall.

Holmes, who is accused of killing 12 and injuring 58 in a shooting at the premiere of Batman film Dark Knight Rises at Aurora cinema in Denver, is seen posing with a poster of the 25-year-old beauty on his profile page of a sex cruising website AdultFriendFinder.

Speaking in The Sun newspaper Miss Hazell said she was horrified.

"It's chilling and has shocked and disgusted me. The whole thing is so weird," she said.

"That picture is from a magazine shoot I did a long while ago and I can't believe such a weirdo has it on his profile page.

"The whole thing is sick — but nothing to what the people of Aurora must be going through.

"My heart goes out to them."

On his profile page, Holmes left a sinister message: "Will you visit me in prison."

The 24-year-old was arrested on Thursday night after the shooting at the cinema in Aurora during a midnight screening of the Batman film.

VILE: Holmes' picture on website

FINANCE

Councils told to protect vulnerable as benefits cut could see council tax rise

By Chrissie Daniels
chrissie.daniels@archant.co.uk

IN the latest blow to low income households, government funding cuts are forcing local authorities to slash council tax benefits.

The Government is cutting its budget for the benefit by 10 per cent in a bid to save money and passing control of who gets what to local councils.

Councils have been ordered to protect the elderly and vulnerable from the cuts, which in turn means low income households will be hit hardest, this could add more than £20 to their annual bill.

The proposed cuts to the benefit will vary depending on where you live, with Dover, Canterbury and Thanet only reducing the payments to those of working age by five to six per cent whereas Ashford Borough Council is proposing to cut support by 17.5per cent.

Cash-strapped councils will also be given the power to change discounts given for council tax from next year, mainly affecting second home owners and empty properties.

The 10 per cent tax discount given to second homeowners will be reviewed by the local authorities, as will the six month tax-free period for owners of empty homes.

Thanet District Council says its budget will be reduced by approximately £2.2 million, Dover and Canterbury will have £1.5m a year less and Ashford will lose £780,000.

The authorities are running consultations in the coming months to get resident feedback on the proposals.

PILING ON THE MISERY: Councils will have to decide if council tax will rise after the Coalition chose to cut its funding of council tax benefits by 10 per cent

Leader of Thanet council, Clive Hart, said: "At Thanet we're facing a reduction of more than £2m from central government to fund council tax benefit. This means we've had to make some really difficult decisions about who gets financial support, and how much, in order to continue providing this benefit to those on low incomes.

"Working together with the east Kent councils, we're proposing a scheme that reduces the impact on benefit customers by removing some council tax discounts and exemptions as well as cutting benefit awards.

"This will help to reduce the overall financial impact on benefit reductions to working age people, however working age council tax benefit claimants will still have to pay more council tax than they have before."

Ashford councillor Robert Taylor, portfolio holder for core services, said: "This shortage in funding means the council will have to make some difficult decisions about who gets financial support and how much in the future."

A spokesman for Kent County Council said: "Having less money to fund council tax benefit in future will leave all local councils, including the police and fire authorities as well as the county and district councils, with a serious challenge.

"KCC has already embarked on early planning and discussion with district and borough councils across the county, and is working closely with the police and fire authorities to ensure common interests are taken into account."

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BOOKS

Author tweets to ensure you haven't Loss De Plott

By Dean Kilpatrick
dean.kilpatrick@archant.co.uk

AN author has decided on an unusual approach to pique a potential reader's interest – by using social networking website Twitter to 'tweet' his entire book, 140 characters at a time.

Stephan Myers, 46, from Ashford is publishing bite-sized chunks of his first book every day and says it is already proving a big success.

He hopes the project will help to encourage people to interact with the text, and has so far accumulated 3,000 followers.

The book, entitled Loss De Plott, is about his corporate background and focuses on the relationship between the narrator and the main character Loss. It was published two weeks ago.

Mr Myers said: "I am something of a technophobe and I am still a little on the fence about social media. I wanted to test my market and Twitter was an ideal arena.

EXPERIENCE: Loss De Plott's story is being shared on Twitter

"What I could do was release it slowly and get some feedback before I decided to publish. It's a good interactive media, and the amount of interaction from readers and authors is great."

Although the book is now published, Mr Myers is continuing to tweet, with the 88-page novel set to take the rest of the year to tweet out.

It is all a long way from his previous career in human resources.

He added: "It was now or never really. I am putting the corporate side on hold for a couple of years and I have decided to draw a line in the sand and follow my gut instinct and do something I enjoy."

The author, who has lived in Ashford for 10 years, has a seven book series planned for his character Loss de Plott, who has been developed by experiences of his own life.

He said: "Having worked in human resources for 20 years, you see the good in people and the bad, and you tend to look at the more vulnerable types in a corporate environment.

"Loss represents vulnerability in society as a whole. She takes the narrator from a place where there is no authenticity; there is money, but he hasn't really achieved what he wanted in life.

"But through meeting these different characters he then realises he is on the wrong path and has the opportunity to change that."

You can read his daily instalments of the book by searching @stephanjmyers on Twitter, or visit www.lossdeplott.com for more about the book and where to buy.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dad killed his own son

A 22-year-old has been jailed for five years after being found guilty of the manslaughter of his four-month-old son Mackenzie last year.

Wayne Acott was found guilty at Maidstone Crown Court. Medical reports said the child had been either struck or shaken, dying as a result of trauma to his head. Doctors said his injuries were usually associated with a high-speed car accident.

Cat savagely beaten

A BELOVED pet cat had to be put down after being savagely attacked as he snoozed on the drive of a house in Tenterden.

Police and RSPCA officers are now hunting a gang of four youths after been seen near where the cat, Buzz Lightyear, 13, was left with internal bleeding and broken bones. The youngsters are believed to be as young as 11. Anyone with information should contact police.

Online A&E wait times

TWO of Kent's major hospitals have introduced a way to check waiting times at their accident and emergency departments online.

The Tunbridge Wells Hospital at Pembury and the Maidstone Hospital hope by providing real-time updates on their websites, patients will be able to make an informed choice as to where to go and whether they could seek treatment elsewhere, such as a minor injury unit or GP.

See www.mtw.nhs.uk for details of the queues at the two hospitals.

REGENERATION

Ashford gets the nod from retail guru Mary Portas

ASHFORD MP Damian Green says the town must use its selection as one of the 15 new Portas Pilot towns as a "springboard" to success.

It was named on Wednesday as being one of the towns selected to benefit from expert advice provided by a team lead by retail guru Mary Portas, pictured.

She has been given a cash-pot to share with town centres in a bid to find a solution to the problems faced by many due to the rise in out-of-town complexes and internet retailers.

While funding is likely to be modest, the advice is likely to be invaluable.

Peter Wood, leader of Ashford Borough Council, said: "Our town is bursting with potential, our hard-working businesses and residents deserve the support – and the national recognition – that this scheme will bring.

"We believe that, with high speed services and a regenerated town, Ashford is heading firmly in the right direction and the support we will receive as a result of this success will help to enhance the opportunities available to us and move the town centre to a stronger and more vibrant level."

Local Conservative MP, and senior Tory, Damian Green, said: "This is great news for Ashford and shows what we can do when the whole town pulls together. We must use this as a springboard to take the town centre to a new level."

The bid was highlighted for its innovative proposals and the way it embraced new technology as well as providing a good case study for other towns to follow.

Ashford's plans include using more innovative ideas to revitalise the market and make it a destination point for shoppers, developing a virtual high street and smartphone app to guide shoppers through the town, and creating stronger links between the town centre and the popular Ashford Designer Outlet.

The bid was accompanied by 50 letters of support from businesses, and a petition backing the bid signed by 165 town centre retailers.

Ashford re-submitted its bid in June, after not being selected in the first round.

The chosen towns get a share of a £1.5million funding pot, and invaluable national support and guidance on revitalising their town centres. The £100,000 from government will also be match-funded by an additional £100,000 from contributions through the planning agreements to revitalise the town centre.

The 14 other towns chosen this week were: Berwick-upon-Tweed, Braintree, Brighton, Hatfield, Leamington, Liverpool, Loughborough, Lowestoft, Morecambe, Rotherham, Tiverton as well as the London boroughs of Lambeth, Lewisham and Tower Hamlets.

Dartford and Margate were both named among the initial towns chosen to benefit from the advice.

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CRIME

As crime figures fall, sharp spike in sex offences re-opens SARC debate

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

SERIOUS sexual offences have risen by 10 per cent in the last year with Kent Police putting the rise down to the number of victims coming forward to report historic abuse.

While the latest Home Office statistics show crime in general in the county is continuing to fall with a 3.6 per cent drop – 3,845 less crimes – on last year, more than 1,070 of the most serious sexual offences, such as rape, were reported;100 more than in 2010/11 and amounting to around 20 a week.

Kent Police said this was due to an increase in the reporting of historic sexual abuse as well as improved support services to victims of domestic abuse. Assistant Chief Constable Paul Brandon said tackling sexual offences continued to be a priority for the force.

Malcolm Gilbert, operations director at Gravesend-based charity Family Matters, one of the country's leading rape crisis centres, agreed there had been an increase in reporting of historic abuse.

But he said this was because there had been a "chronic under-reporting" through the years and the problem had been previously hidden and ignored.

He said: "Society and its institutions has swept this issue under the carpet in a unwritten code of silence with sexual abuse victims disbelieved, prevalence rates scorned and resources not allocated,

"Encouraged by high profile cases involving the priesthood, more and more victims of historic sexual abuse are and will come forward.

"However, considering the numbers of abuse victims that have amassed over the years of silence, this still represents the tip of a very large iceberg.

"If we are serious about this issue we must, as a society – and that means all our politicians, local, regional and national, and our statutory providers – send a message to abuse victims that they are encouraged to report."

But Mr Gilbert said the message was not being sent out in Kent, the only county in the south east without a 24/7 Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC), a suite staffed around-the-clock by trained crisis workers, independent from the police, to deal with the aftermath of an assault.

"At present there is no facility for a rape victim to self-refer without first engaging the police; an option many women choose not to do," he said.

"As a consequence those that do not wish to report to police their assault are forced to suffer in silence and cannot access morning-after pills, proper forensic examination and storage of DNA or receive post-assault HIV prophylactics.

"With this facility as our flagship we can expect greater numbers of historic and current abuse and rape victims coming forward to seek redress through the criminal justice system."

Darent Valley Hospital in Dartford has a SARC suite, but this is only open Monday to Friday 9am-4pm. It means for victims assaulted at a weekend or night time, they have to leave a message on an answer phone and wait for someone to get back to them.

Calls have been made for a 24/7 SARC to be opened in other areas to reduce the long journeys traumatised victims have to make to Dartford.

The latest Home Office figures show Kent overall has seen a steady reduction in crime since 2005/06.

Assistant Chief Constable Brandon stressed Kent was a safe county and that the force would continue to work with partner agencies and residents to reduce crime and target people who break the law.

"We know where we need to focus and reducing burglary and sexual offences continues to be a priority," he said.

Violent crime saw a 2.4 per cent drop (545 less crimes) this year since 2010/11 and vehicle crime a 16.2 per cent reduction (1,855 less crimes).

Criminal damage was also down, by 7.7 per cent (1,643 less). But burglary was up two per cent (239 more crimes) and robbery by 10.4 per cent (90 more crimes).

Assistant Chief Constable Brandon said: "Kent Police continues to perform well and it is encouraging to see that overall crime is falling.

"Modern day policing has faced a number of significant challenges. Despite this Kent has been adaptable and responsive to these changes whilst continuing to deliver a quality service to the community and further reduce crime."

COMPULSORY LIE DETECTOR TESTS FOR OFFENDERS

SEX offenders leaving prison will have to take lie detector tests following a successful pilot scheme carried out by the University of Kent.

Researchers found overwhelming evidence that offenders monitored with polygraph testing made more disclosures about their risk.

Government ministers are now looking to roll mandatory testing nationwide.

The pilot scheme, led by Dr Theresa Gannon and Dr Jane Wood at the university, looked at the use of lie detector tests to increase disclosures made by sex offenders released from prison to probation staff.

Dr Gannon said: "Those taking part in the pilot project made more disclosures about entering an exclusion zone or contact with children than sex offenders supervised under normal probation conditions.

"We found the polygraph pilot was effective for a whole range of sex offenders, and perhaps most significantly, sex offenders themselves reported finding the polygraph useful for helping them to manage their behaviour in the future."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Missing OAP killed

AN 82-year-old man, who had sparked two major missing person hunts in the last two weeks, was found dead on the busy A249 near Sittingbourne in the early hours of Wednesday morning.

Alfred Cole went missing from a hospital in Ashford on Tuesday morning. He was found by police on the Maidstone-bound carriageway near Bobbing. An investigation into how he died is under way. Police believe he was hit by a car.

United honour Daish

NON-league football club Ebbsfleet United have honoured long-serving manager Liam Daish by naming a stand after him at their Stonebridge Road ground.

First appointed manager in February 2005, the former Republic of Ireland international is now the longest serving manager in the Blue Square Premier club's history.

Previously the Stonebridge Road Terrace, it will now be known as the Liam Daish Stand.

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You can also use it to contact us about stories in your area.

TOURISM

Visit Kent chief elected to top industry position

A MAJOR tourism organisation, which has more than 1,000 members worldwide, has elected Kent's tourist champion as vice-chairman.

Sandra Matthews-Marsh is chief executive of Visit Kent, the body which promotes the county.

And now she will play a key role in the Tourism Society, the professional membership organisation. She will hold the post with the brief of driving up standards of professionalism across all areas of the industry.

Mrs Matthews-Marsh said: "The society is committed to looking in detail at the many complex challenges tourism businesses, organisations and destinations face in a highly competitive marketplace."

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FIND OUT MORE...
Kent Police Authority is holding a series of road shows where people can find out about the PCC.

They will run from 10am-4pm at:

Chatham, Pentagon	August 3
Ashford, County Square	August 10
Broadstairs, ASDA	August 17
Canterbury, Whitefriars	August 24
Maidstone, Sainsbury's	August 31

POLICE

Shocking survey results reveal an alarming lack of interest in vote to select £85,000 police supremo

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

IT'S been hailed as the biggest shake-up to policing in 50 years; giving the public the chance to select the person who will play a key part in how our county is policed and assuming a powerful, high-profile role.

As well as pocketing an expected £85,000 salary.

But shocking findings have exposed how little the people of Kent know about the Police and Crime Commissioner election later this year.

In an exclusive survey by this newspaper, our reporters took to the streets armed with pictures of the three main candidates in the Police and Crime Commissioner race – Conservative candidate Craig Mackinlay, Labour's Harriet Yeo and independent candidate Ann Barnes – and a set of questions looking to find out how much people actually know.

Worryingly, from the hundreds we quizzed, our figures revealed a staggering 75 per cent knew nothing about the November election at all.

And when shown pictures of the main contenders, a massive 91 per cent had no clue as to who they were; 89 per cent still left scratching their heads when we told them the candidates names too.

One thought Mr Mackinlay – a Medway councillor – was one of the dragons from the BBC2 series Dragon's Den or actor Kenneth Branagh, and another mistook Mrs Barnes for transport minister Theresa Villiers.

Another worrying statistic was the high number of people who said they would not be going to the polls on November 15 to vote in the county's first PCC election.

Many stressed this was due to the lack of information available and not knowing enough about the process.

The PCC is being introduced by the Home Office to replace police authorities and the Government department is expected to launch a campaign after the Olympics.

It will mean the dissolution of the existing Kent Police Authority.

Our findings would suggest the campaign is going to need to be extravagant.

Ian Pointon, chair of the Kent Police Federation, which represents police officers, said he was not surprised at the lack of knowledge about the PCC, but that this was likely to improve closer to the election.

"I think this is something very much led on a Whitehall level, but I think people will become more informed with time," he said.

"But I don't know how many people will turn out on a cold November day to cast a vote on something they don't know too much about."

Mr Mackinlay confirmed there would be a campaign by the Home Office in late September to raise the profile.

"I think it's also up to the candidates to do this," he said.

"It's not quite sinking in at the moment. People are familiar with other elections, but because this is a new election, people don't know about it yet.

"It's a stand-alone election which I am sure the whole country will get involved with."

Asked how he felt about not being recognised in our survey, he said: "I hope people in Medway might have seen me smiling a bit more, but I am not surprised at this stage of the game.

"Kent is a vast location and it's up to me to get around to see the people."

His rival Ms Yeo, an Ashford councillor, said she wasn't offended people didn't know who she was and was working on a major campaign to raise the profile of the PCC.

"I've got an idea I'm working on that will involve reaching out to lots of people.

"I'm looking at hosting debates later this year and contacting young people through social networking," she said.

"This election is about giving people a voice and it's very important they get involved.

"There is a lot of vagueness about it at the moment; people don't know who the candidates are and so I'm not offended they don't know who I am. Part of my job is to get out there and inform them."

Mrs Barnes, who was most recognisable in the survey due to her being the current chair of the Kent Police Authority, said she is getting ready to take to the streets in a series of road shows to get the message out there.

"This is a new role and people are starting to learn about it," she said.

"They need to know so they can understand the ramifications if they make the wrong choice in the election and how important this is.

"I wasn't for PCCs being introduced, and now I have no other choice but to stand and make sure people make the right choice."

Mrs Barnes said it was harder for independent candidates to get the word out there as the Government was not providing free postage to the electorate as they do in the General Election and council polls.

Mrs Barnes declared her intention to run this week. Speaking earlier this week, she feared turn-out for the election could be as low as just 15 per cent.

■ **For details on the existing Kent Police Authority and what the PCC role entails, as well as a full list of candidates, see the panels above.**

YOUR GUIDE TO THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

THE county's Police and Crime Commissioner will replace the Kent Police Authority following an election open to everyone on the electoral register on November 15.

It will take the same form as that of a local council or General Election and there will be candidates from political parties as well as independents standing. So who does what?

Kent Police Authority (in place until Nov 2012):

- Monitors Kent Police to ensure it is value for money and provides a good service
- Provides the force with staff, buildings, equipment and facilities
- Appoints the Chief Constable and senior officers
- Sets the budget for the force as well as targets
- Monitors performance
- Makes sure community priorities determine policing
- Members chosen through a recruitment process or local council

But the Coalition Government has decided to scrap police authorities and instead introduce the PCC in an effort, it says, to provide stronger and more transparent accountability to the force.

The Police and Crime Commissioner will:

- Be elected by the public in November at polling stations and through postal votes
- Hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of the force
- Set the force's budget and precept
- Set and update a police and crime plan
- Engage with communities
- Hire and fire the Chief Constable
- Aim to cut crime and deliver an effective police service
- The Chief Constable, however, will retain the direction and control of the force's officers and staff.

Lyn Richardson
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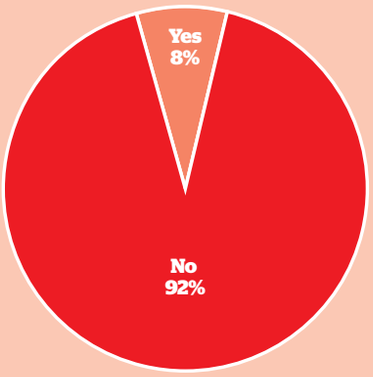
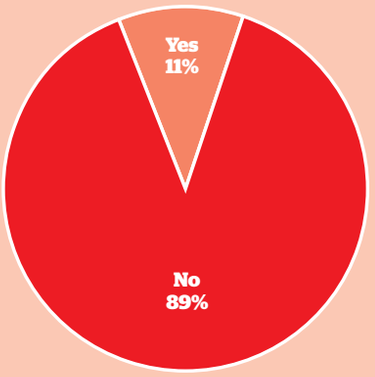
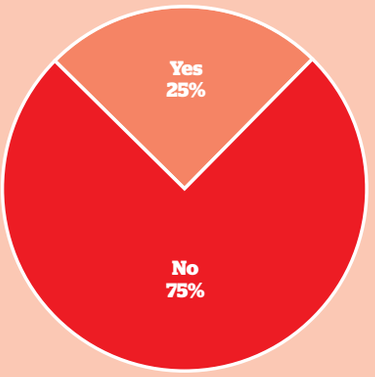
Do you know who these three people (pictured) are?



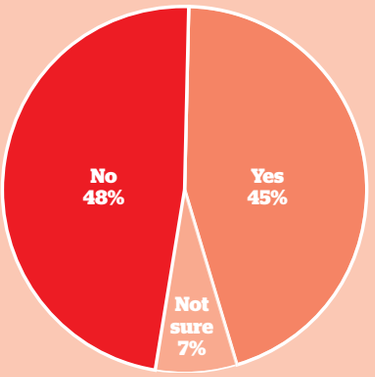
Here are their names with their picture. Do you know why they are in the news?



Do you know about the Police and Crime Commissioner elections?



Are you going to vote in the Police and Crime Commissioner elections?



List of candidates in the PCC race so far:

Craig Mackinlay pictured centre (Conservative)
Harriet Yeo pictured left (Labour)
Ann Barnes pictured far left (Independent)
Dai Liyanage (Independent)
Ken Little (Independent)
Fran Croucher (Independent)
Fergus Wilson (Independent)
Ian Driver (Independent)
Steven Uncles (English Democrats)

231 people took part in this survey in Sittingbourne, Medway, Tunbridge Wells, Folkestone, Hythe, Ramsgate, Dover, Canterbury and Ashford. **REPORTING TEAM:** Chrissie Daniels, Dean Kilpatrick, Joe Bill and Nick Ames

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LONDON 2012

CENTRE OF ATTENTION: Kent's many commuters will face severe road and rail disruption as thousands of visitors descend on London for the 2012 Games

As Games start, commuters warned Monday will be hell on rail and roads

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

WHILE excitement over the Olympics reaches a peak this weekend, commuters are bracing themselves for a taste of travel chaos like no other this week, as the rail and road networks prepare for a huge surge in the number of users.

And rail commuters are being warned this Monday is set to be one of the busiest days of all, with an extra 50,000 using the rail network to reach equestrian events being staged at Greenwich Park in addition to events taking place at the Olympic Park in Stratford.

Train operator Southeastern say the crowds will be so large there will be no access to London Bridge station for platforms one to six during the peak rush hour times of 6pm to 10pm.

Passengers will only be able to exit the station which is expected to be one of the busiest terminals throughout the Games.

It is, therefore, advising all passengers to pick up services back into Kent from Cannon Street, Charing Cross, Victoria or Waterloo East instead.

Alison Nolan, from Southeastern, said: "From this weekend, our services will be extremely busy, so we hope by now people are starting to think about their travel options during the Games.

"While we're running the maximum number of trains possible, putting on longer carriages and a new timetable, services will still be really busy.

"Queues are to be expected at many London terminal stations.

"Our advice is to allow enough time to travel and consider re-timing your journeys to avoid the busiest times on the network."

Southeastern anticipates a significant increase of around a quarter of the daily number of users as people use public transport to reach the Games.

It says it expects to carry around 110,000 extra passengers a day during the three-week Olympics while experts estimate 300,000 extra vehicles on our roads.

Users of the high-speed services between Kent and Stratford International are advised to check timetables closely, as many services are being cut during the Games, with trains acting as a shuttle service between St Pancras International and Stratford.

Meanwhile, on the roads, all key routes into London will be busier than usual, with particular hotspots leading towards the Blackwall Tunnel and Dartford Crossing. Motorists are advised to allow plenty of extra time for their journeys especially during peak times.

■ **Are you travelling to the Games or heading into London? Plan ahead for your trip using the London 2012 travel site: www.getaheadofthegames.com.**

Copper's perfect beat

A DANCING Kent police officer has proved to be an online hit as he entertained crowds lining the Sevenoaks' route of the Olympic torch last week.

Motorcycle officer PC Matt Townsend was cheered as his routine began with some robotic dance moves before he began to hop around on one leg.

Encouraged by the crowd's reaction, he then attempted break-dancing before finishing with an energetic hip thrust.

His antics were captured and uploaded onto YouTube where it has racked up nearly 200,000 hits.

View the clip yourself at http://bit.ly/Ocjxcv.

Launderette prepared to clean up its act if 'brand police' come calling

A FOLKESTONE launderette is defying the rules on London 2012 branding by proudly displaying the Olympic Rings.

The Leas Laundrette has the symbol painted on its window along with a message of support for Team GB.

And owner Linda Baker said she does not anticipate any problems from what has been dubbed the 'Olympics brand police'. This group of lawyers and enforcement officers, have clamped down on small businesses using key words such as Olympic, 2012, London, medals and gold, and the use of the Olympic Rings and all official logos, in promotional material.

It is designed to protect the big-spending sponsors who have secured exclusivity on using the officialm marks, but has come in for huge criticism from businesses falling foul of the laws.

Mrs Baker said: "We thought someone might say something during the torch relay and if they had done we'd have removed everything.

"But no official said a word."

The messages and logos will now stay up for the duration of the London 2012 Games.

Mrs Baker said: "Many people have said how great it is. We have had our customers remarking on it and people stop and look as they walk by. Some even come in with messages of support."

This week, London Mayor Boris Johnson called for commonsense to override a heavy-handed approach to any infringement.

He said: "I think this is an area where you mustn't allow any kind of insanity."

The Olympic Delivery Authority said rules would be enforced in "a reasonable and proportionate way".

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Bring your treasures to the experts on the day, but if you have **large pieces of furniture and/or bulky antiques** you can't carry we may be able to help. Write now enclosing a photo if possible.
Closing date for letters: Tuesday 28th August 2012.
Antiques Roadshow, BBC, Whiteladies Rd, Bristol BS8 2LR
or E-mail us at: antiques.roadshow@bbc.co.uk
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HEALTH

Dementia: A 'time-bomb' we must shout about

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

MEMORY WALK: From left, Katie Ives and Lorraine Summers will be raising awareness of dementia with an event at Leeds Castle

THE daughter of parents both struck down with dementia has given a heartbreaking insight into the condition in the hope it will make more people understand the disease.

In a poignant account about her own experience, Lorraine Summers, from Lenham, said people too often "stick their heads in the sand".

The 58-year-old has watched her grandfather, father and now mother struggle with dementia, also known as Alzheimer's, which causes memory loss, confusion and mood and communication problems.

The Alzheimer's Society said by 2021 some 30,000 people in Kent will have the disease – 9,000 more than today.

"It's going to happen to more people as the population grows and people live longer," said Ms Summers.

"It can be a ticking time bomb. We need to raise awareness, we need to shout about this and make people listen.

"Dementia isn't fashionable. When you see pictures of a sick child or animal, people say how sad that is, but with the elderly and with a disease like dementia, you don't get the same reaction."

And she should know, having seen three close family members go through it.

First it was her grandfather when he was 76.

"We became aware there was something not right when he got lost on the M25. He just carried on driving around and around and couldn't work out what to do.

"It gradually progressed from there. He knew there was something wrong, it was very difficult for him."

But it was in more recent years when her own father was diagnosed that the real heartache began.

"About six years ago my Dad had to have an operation on his spine, it wasn't successful and he ended up in a wheelchair. He then had his leg amputated. The beginnings of vascular dementia then started, which is caused by restricted blood flow to the brain.

"In January 2011 he had a stroke and it just catapulted the dementia. It went from mild to severe.

"He was having hallucinations, he didn't know who he was. My dad was a gentleman and very respectful, I'd never heard him shout, but after that he was screaming and shouting – I couldn't believe that voice."

Her father was moved to Ashminster House in Ashford, where he received support for dementia.

"To see a man reduced to a baby, lying in bed in pads, it's just awful. The whole experience was horrendous."

Ms Summers' father passed away in June last year, but the sorrow was set to continue as early signs of dementia started to worsen in her mother.

"She had mild dementia before my father died but she was focused on him and making sure he was okay – as a couple they were so dependent on each other," she said.

But since his death things have gradually worsened and her mother, 81, is due to go into a home at the end of this year.

"She wants to stay in her own home in Hawkinge but she is really struggling.

"I want to keep her there as long as possible and I'm there for her as much as I can be, but when I'm not it's very difficult.

"She was such a smart woman but she puts on the same clothes every day now, she wears woolly tights even though it's hot and she doesn't do her hair.

"She'll put things in the microwave and forget about it and then find it the next day and heat it up and eat it so she gets sick.

"She even flagged down a car to give her a lift from the shops. It's very worrying when I'm not there."

To raise awareness of the condition, Ms Summers is launching an Alzheimer's Society charity walk at Leeds Castle in September.

Called the Memory Walk and held in partnership with Bupa Care, the event takes place on September 30, at 10am, to raise money to help support sufferers and their carers in the area.

Katie Ives from Bupa's Warren Lodge Care Home in Ashford said: "Many people have heard of dementia but know very little about it, until it touches their lives."

■ **See www.memorywalk.org.uk to register for the event or find out more.**

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ANIMALS

Royal Mail figures reveal huge rise in dog attacks on delivery workers

By Dean Kilpatrick
dean.kilpatrick@archant.co.uk

THE number of dog attacks on postmen and women in the past year have soared – with part of Kent seeing an increase in excess of 50 per cent.

According to Royal Mail's latest figures its staff are under attack from over-protective pets.

In the area covered by the TN postcode – Tunbridge Wells, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Ashford – 75 delivery workers were attacked between April 2011 and April 2012, a rise of 53 per cent on the previous period.

The CT postcode covering Canterbury, Thanet, Dover and Folkestone, however, saw 18 incidents – a 14 per cent drop; the Medway towns (ME) had 37 attacks (up nine per cent); and Dartford and Gravesend (DA), had 19 reported problems (up 12 per cent).

DOG ATTACK FIGURES
April 2011-April 2012

TN postcode: **75 attacks** (+53 per cent)
CT postcode: **18 attacks** (-14 per cent)
ME postcode: **37 attacks** (+9 per cent)
DA postcode: **19 attacks** (+12 per cent)

Now there are fears the rate of attacks will increase in the summer as dogs are left unsupervised in the garden as parents focus on children.

Communications Workers Union health and safety officer Dave Joyce said: "The age-old image of the dog attacking the postman is not a laughing matter. Thousands of our members are bitten every year and hundreds suffer debilitating injuries which leave them with physical and psychological scarring."

The figures show an increase in dog attacks nationally, and Royal Mail has expressed its concern about the upward trend.

Tom O'Kane, director of safety for Royal Mail in the south east, said: "Clearly, most dogs are not inherently dangerous. However, even the most placid animal can be prone to attack if it feels its territory is being threatened.

"The number of attacks is unacceptably high. Even just being threatened by an unrestrained pet is a frightening situation for our delivery staff and we would appeal to owners to keep their pets under control."

Royal Mail has asked its customers to consider any danger its staff may face if they have a dog, and has issued tips including keeping dogs away from mailboxes or putting them in cages around delivery time.

Talking to a lawyer is never going to be a barrel-load of laughs. But it doesn't have to be scary.

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Atlas Ovation 38ft x 12ft, 2 bed

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Atlas Concept 38ft x 12ft, 2 bed

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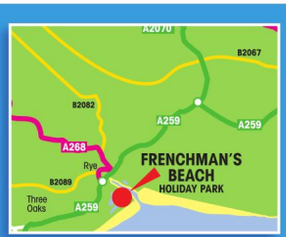

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FRENCHMAN'S BEACH HOLIDAY PARK

News

TELEVISION

Antiques Roadshow to visit Historic Dockyard

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

IT'S time to rummage through your loft and polish up the silver – the BBC's ever-popular Antiques Roadshow is coming to town and wants you and your heirlooms to pay it a visit.

Now in its 35th series, presenter Fiona Bruce will be fronting the show when it films in the grounds of the Historic Dockyard on Thursday, September 6.

Some of Britain's leading antiques and fine arts specialists will be on hand to offer free advice and valuations to visitors, who are invited to raid their attics and bring along their family heirlooms, household treasures and car boot bargains for inspection by the experts.

The last series, watched by an average of six million viewers, included some amazing finds such as a painting by Rolf Harris bought for £50 and valued at £50,000; a beer flagon made from Oliver Cromwell's horse; the medical chest taken on Shackleton's 1914 expedition to the Antarctic; and a toilet roll which was rejected by the Beatles at the Abbey Road Studios.

Series editor Simon Shaw says: "The team are all looking forward to visiting Chatham. It's always exciting to see what will come to light.

"We regularly see between 1,500 and 2,000 visitors on the day. Despite the high turnout, everyone will get to see an expert."

The Chatham event will see doors open at 9.30am and close at 4.30pm. Entry to the show is free. People with large pieces of furniture or other big items can send details and photographs of their objects to: Antiques Roadshow, BBC, Whiteladies Road, Bristol BS8 2LR or email them to antiques.roadshow@bbc.co.uk.

Producers say it may be possible to arrange to look at the item in advance and organise transportation to the venue.

Ms Bruce is now in her fifth year presenting the show.

She said: "Presenting the Antiques Roadshow is, for me, one of those rare and very lucky coincidences in television when you get to work on a show that you already love to watch.

"Exploring the human story behind every object is what makes Antiques Roadshow so fascinating. And everyone loves the agony and ecstasy of the 'what's it worth?' moment.

"The AR isn't just about antiques; it's history, beauty and drama all wrapped up in one."

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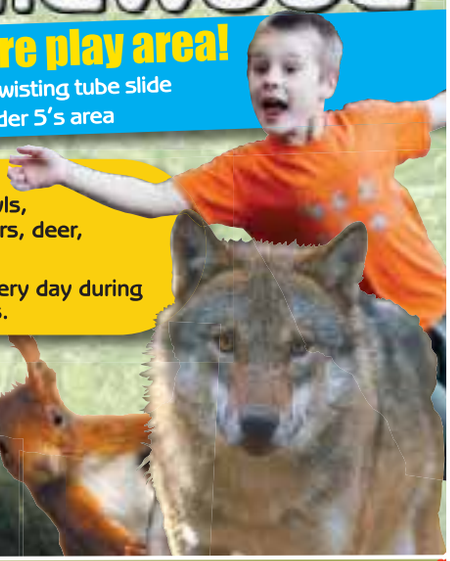

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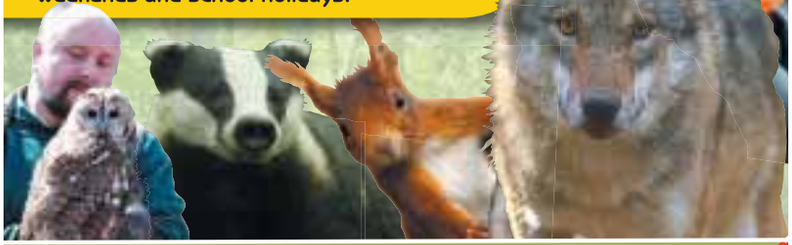

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News

WILDLIFE

Scientists investigate the decline of starlings

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

FEARS over the future of one of the country's best-known birds are growing as their numbers are continuing to drop dramatically, leaving experts baffled.

Over the past two decades, the number of starlings in Kent have declined by 69 per cent. Across the European Union, some 40 million starlings have disappeared since 1980.

Now steps are being taken to try and halt the decline, with the RSPB leading a research project in a bid to pinpoint why UK flocks are in such freefall.

In 2002, the starling was added to the UK 'red list' for 'birds of conservation concern', because its population had halved during the previous three decades.

Each winter, birds arriving from continental Europe boost the UK's starling numbers. There is evidence of a decline in the number of starlings visiting the UK, which could be linked to the decline elsewhere.

NOT SO COMMON: Starlings are on the conservation 'red list'

The RSPB's Dr Richard Gregory heads up the society's bird monitoring section. He explained: "The starling is still a plentiful bird, but its numbers are falling alarmingly.

"Records show that we have lost more starlings across Europe than any other farmland bird. Forty million starlings lost represents more than 150 for every hour since the 1980s.

"This should be a wake-up call, because we ignore the decline of nature at our peril."

Starling numbers recorded in the RSPB's annual Big Garden Birdwatch have fallen by 80 per cent since 1979. While they are still the second most recorded bird in Kent, this year an average of 4.5 birds were seen per garden, compared to 12 in 1991.

Dr Will Peach, who is leading the UK research into the starling decline, said: "Figures like these have convinced us of the need for action."

There have been several theories put forward to explain the starling's decline. In parts of Europe, suggestions include the loss of grassland through conversion to forestry and the growing of crops. But these changes haven't affected the UK in the same way, so the reasons for the rapid contraction here are not understood.

RSPB researchers will be working with farmers to examine whether there is sufficient food and nesting sites for starlings in livestock areas.

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News

SUNNY: Weather presenter will host special evening

EVENTS

Kaddy's on menu

FORMER BBC weather presenter Kaddy Lee Preston will be the special star turn and guest speaker at an event in Margate in September.

The broadcaster, who quit her role on BBC South East Today earlier this year, will be hosting a gourmet night at the Salmestone Grange on September 1.

The 'Dine with Kaddy Lee Preston' event will see the presenter reveal stories from her career, as well as signing autographs and posing for photographs after the meal.

William Whelan, the venue's owner, added "We are so thrilled that Kaddy will be joining us. I'm looking forward to some great company and lively conversation from one of our favourite TV personalities."

CRASH

Driver killed in car smash

A MOTORIST was killed after a road smash in Sevenoaks last weekend.

The victim was the driver of a red Mazda MX5 which hit a grey Vauxhall Vectra outside the Sainsbury's supermarket in Otford Road at around 12.50pm.

The driver was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the other car was not seriously injured.

FIRE

Harvester fire sparks alert

FIVE fire engines and dozens of firefighters tackled a blazing combine harvester after it caught alight in a field near Sandwich on Monday.

Crews were called to the fire in Hammill Road, Woodnesborough, at around 3.10pm. As teams tackled the fire on the machinery, others ringed the field to prevent the blaze from spreading. It took more than four hours to control the fire.

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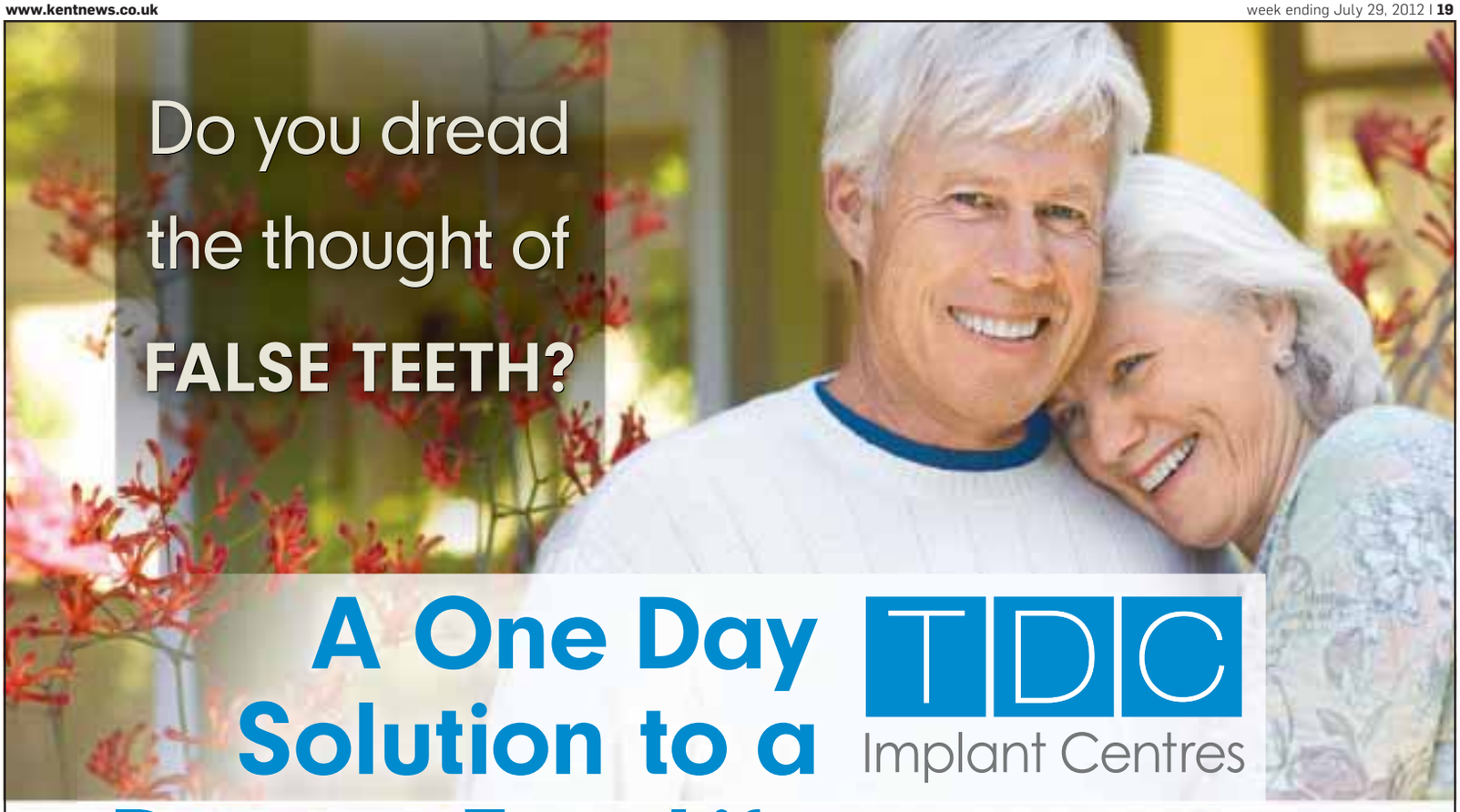

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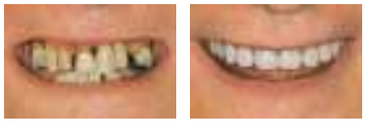

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News

SPORT

Ben, 12, wins Euro crown

RACER Ben Jelf has added another major title to his collection, after last year becoming the youngest ever powerboat world champion at the tender age of 11.

Now 12, Ben created waves after winning the 2011 World GT15 title.

And, last weekend, the Maidstone race ace secured the 2012 UIM European GT15 title after travelling to Estonia to defend the title he won last year.

The youngster, who now travels to defend his world title in Sweden, said: "The support from my family, friends and sponsors has helped me get here and it wouldn't have been possible without them."

THEATRE

Film secures bursary

A CHATHAM-based touring theatrical company has picked up a £1,500 bursary to produce a short film to be given a special screening at a red carpet awards in London.

The Icon Theatre was the only Kent project from six across the south east to be awarded uShoot Filmmaking bursaries through Screen South's uScreen project. The project aims to inspire creativity across the UK on the back of the legacy of the London 2012 Olympic Games.

HEALTH

Charlton display cup

CHARLTON Athletic fans will be able to see the League One cup when the club descends on the Larkfield Leisue Centre to promote a new junior football programme in September.

A first team player will also attend the Charlton Soccer School Open Day at the centre on September 16 from 2-4pm. There will also be taster sessions across a wide age range, from toddlers to 12-year-olds. The 12-week programme begins on September 21.

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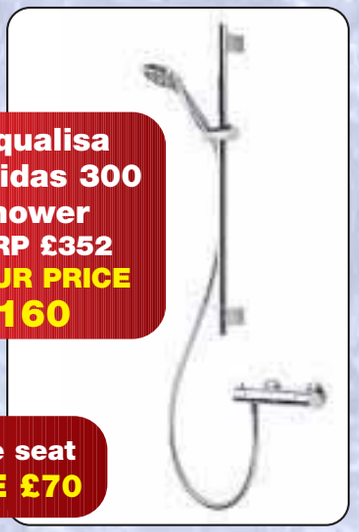

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News

CRIME

£5,000 reward up for grabs after crook swipes rare Zulu war medals

By Dean Kilpatrick
dean.kilpatrick@archant.co.uk

TWO rare medals presented during the Zulu War over 100 years ago have been pinched by an apparent expert in the era.

The two medals were swiped from the home of a member of a Zulu historical group in Woodchurch Road, Tenterden.

The crook had visited the home as an expert on the war which took place in South Africa in 1879.

He is described as white, aged 50 to 60 years old and was very smartly dressed wearing smart brown shoes.

Chairman of the Anglo Zulu War Historical Society, Dr Adrian Greeves, said: "They are both classed as A medals, but they have no market value because everyone know's they have been stolen.

"What anyone could do with them except for sit in a dark room and gloat about it to themselves, I don't know."

Dr Greeves only recently noticed them missing, and said the sentimental value of the items was significant and he would like them returned.

He added: "They were given to me by a dear friend and he was murdered three years ago so it is all I have from him."

A £5,000 reward has been offered for the return of the medals. Anyone with information should contact PC Philip Butcher on 101.

POLITICS

Osborne set for 2015

TRISTAN Osborne has been named as Labour's candidate to challenge Tracey Crouch at the next General Election.

Cllr Osborne already serves on Medway Council and was selected as the candidate for the 2015 election for the Chatham and Aylesford constituency.

Local Labour group leader Vince Maple said: "Tristan has shown he can be a true community champion, standing up for local residents."

LONDON 2012

Games' church chimes

THE bells of St Mary's Church in Higham rang out on Friday morning as part of a national event to mark the start of the Olympic Games.

It rang for three minutes starting at 8.12am as part of a project - All the Bells - organised by Turner Prize-winner Martin Creed. Bells from across the country rang out to mark the event.

Peter Aiers, south east director for the Churches Conservation Trust, said: "It is fantastic that St Mary's took part."

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CONSERVATION

Join the stars and help protect our white cliffs

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

DAME Judi Dench, soul singer Joss Stone and wartime sweetheart Dame Vera Lynn are three of a long list of celebrities throwing their weight behind a National Trust campaign to buy a stretch of the famous White Cliffs of Dover.

The charity already looks after and manages the landmark, with the exception of a 1.35km stretch – arguably the most iconic part.

National Trust bosses say to acquire it will complete the "missing link" and allow them to protect the cliffs for future generations. But they need the public's help, and last month launched a £1.2 million fundraising campaign.

Director-general of the National Trust, Fiona Reynolds, said in just one month thousands of people backed the appeal and almost half of the money needed has been raised.

Now a host of celebrities have thrown their weight behind the campaign, hoping it will give the vital push to reach the £1.2m target.

The money has to be raised by the end of the year for the National Trust to acquire the cliff stretch.

Iconic wartime singer Dame Vera Lynn said she supported the appeal to ensure the cliffs are protected in their entirety.

"The sight of them meant so much to returning servicemen during the wars, and they continue to be a huge part of the history of this island, as they always have been," she said.

Bond actor Dame Judi Dench added: "Whenever I see the White Cliffs of Dover, I think of the Matthew Arnold poem Dover Beach: The cliffs of England stand glimmering and vast, out in the tranquil bay."

Other faces to have lent their support are actor Richard E Grant, fashion designer Zandra Rhodes, yachtswoman Dame Ellen MacArthur, TV presenter Tony Robinson and comedian Paul O'Grady.

Mr O'Grady, who lives in Aldington, said: "For the past 14 years Kent has been my home and I've come to really love the peace and quiet of the countryside.

"The white cliffs are Kent's most famous and stunning landscape and have a very special place in many of our hearts. I'm backing the National Trust appeal so the cliffs will be safe forever, for all of us – I urge everyone out there to do the same."

The trust said it was important the charity took over the 1.35km sweep between the visitor centre and South Foreland lighthouse which overlooks the port.

It is the only part of the five mile stretch to remain in private hands.

The charity said this leaves it at risk of inappropriate development in the future.

■ **See www.nationaltrust.org.uk/whitecliffsappeal to donate, or text the amount to 70070, for example 'DOVR02 £5', or call 0844 800 1895.**

SUPPORT: Dame Judi Dench, Joss Stone and Zandra Rhodes support the bid to buy the white cliffs

DEVELOPMENT

Protestors vow to stop 'Son of KIG'

GREEN activists have vowed to fight what they are calling "Son of KIG" after recommendations were submitted to develop on land previously outlined for the quashed Kent International Gateway.

The controversial proposal, which was refused in 2010, was for a road-to-rail freight depot near junction eight of the M20, at Bearsted.

Thousands of protesters celebrated when the plans were turned down, but now it looks as though the fight is back on, with part of the precious land outlined as a potential site for an industrial park.

Maidstone Green Party called the latest proposal "Son of KIG". If given the go ahead it would cover a quarter of the 25 hectare site, which is located in the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

In a report to Tory-run Maidstone Borough Council's cabinet on Wednesday, planning officers stated that to use Woodcut Farm – part of the previous KIG site – would have a substantial impact on the landscape.

It was also stated that wildlife would be affected. But officers outlined it as a potential site for employment development and a public consultation could be held. No firm plans have been received.

However, Maidstone council's scrutiny committee voted on Tuesday to drop the site from any plans.

This was echoed by the Green Party, which vowed to fight any proposals.

Ciaran Oliver from Maidstone Green Party said people in Bearsted felt betrayed by the council: "There is a real sense of shock that the council can spend £2m fighting an industrial park development in 2009 only to propose a similar one three years later. Their support for the StopKIG campaign now seems like hollow electioneering. This industrial park must not be allowed to go ahead. Maidstone Greens will be in the front line of the fight to stop it."

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JACQ 45, slim, natural blonde, blue eyes, GSOH, seeks confident guy for company/friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391564**

KAREN 38 slim and attractive seeking confident professional for companionship, status/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392407**

28YR old lady, seeking male, 35-60 for serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391756**

BUBBLY fun loving single mum, 47, seeks Knight in shining armour, 38-55 to put the spark back into life. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392951**

JEM 24 new to this, WLTM someone who also enjoys fine wine/dining for good times and adult relationship, 28-45yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392497**

TRACY likes nights in/out, seeking honest male, 36-46 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391884**

HAPPY young looking 71yr old female, well travelled, intelligent, GSOH, seeks genuine, affectionate male, 60 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393897**

MARION slim attractive long legged female, WLTM caring sensitive male for mutual attention, good conversation and romantic dates. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393509**

CLARE 36yr old nurse, pretty, slim, active, all round good catch, seeking male 40-70yrs for mature loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393479**

SUSAN gorgeous 29yr old lonely Scottish lass new to area and at loose end, seeking reliable caring male up to 40yrs for friendship/more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393465**

SERENE affable black attractive slim female 37 with a benevolent smile, friendly, loves reading nature, theatre, music, sports WLTM genuine caring gent, 34-47 to share laughter/life. London **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369411**

YOUNG in outlook 60yr old lady, seeks gent with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393173**

JUDY slim blue eyed blonde, 35yrs, great fun, intelligent, educated, N/S, seeks witty guy for gym dates, friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393135**

VERY attractive single black female, 32, loves night in/out, seeking genuine companion for text fun, love and laughter. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393131**

FAY very lonely single mum, 26yrs looking for some adult companionship with open minded, non-judgmental male. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393121**

LORRAINE 32yr old petite attractive female looking for male to turn up the heat on our rather gloomy summer. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393119**

MARGARET middle aged, attractive, likes storm chasing, cooking, seeks male with GSOH, possible forces. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391648**

SARAH 40, large, tactile, likes cuddles, walks, cinema, beach, meals out, seeking male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390912**

LADY 70's, easygoing, likes most things, medium build, seeks gent for friendship, car owner. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386331**

SENSUAL 32yr old professional with no time to have a relationship, seeks similar understanding male for compatible discreet relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386309**

BECKY 34 single mum of one, GSOH, employed with OHAC, fun to be with and very loving, WLTM Mr Right if he is out there? ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386305**

LOUISE young 48, long hair, blue eyes, cultured, easygoing, good natured, seeks intelligent, genuine guy for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389389**

BUBBLY female, 49, kind, caring, honest, GSOH, brown hair, blue eyes, likes meals out, pubs, cooking, cinema, seeks male with similar interests for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390815**

MID 40's slim, attractive female, seeks single male, 65-80 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391989**

DONNA 24yr old single nurse, curvy, pretty, brown hair, big eyes, single and fun to be with, WLTM mature male for romance 25-45yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391117**

SARAH 27yr old single mum, independent, very pretty, GOSH, many interests, seeking male for cuddles and lots of TLC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391097**

DENISE very normal single white female, likes nights in/out, keeping fit, seeking genuine romantic black male for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391093**

AFFABLE serene black attractive slim female 37 with a benevolent smile, loves reading nature, theatre, music WLTM genuine caring gent to share laughter/life. London **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369411**

MEL easy going middle aged singleton looking for adult companionship with nice male who appreciates a feminine, attractive lady. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392487**

WELL educated female, slim, smart, mid 50's, needing to restart life, looking for tall, slim, smart gent with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391136**

FEMALE 48, kind, caring, bubbly, GSOH, likes meals out, pubs, cinema, cooking, seeks male, 40-50 with similar interests for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383787**

CHRISTIAN lady, seeks Christian man, 58 plus for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386565**

JUNE good looking divorced 40's female, bubbly romantic and looking for tlc. Genuine replies only pls. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386301**

46YR old young, curvy single mum, easygoing, caring, GSOH, wants to live and love, seeks honest man, 35-55 for genuine relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387143**

MONIQUE black, looking for N/S gentleman, 50-60 with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391220**

SUSAN very pretty curvy blue eyed girlie girl, WLTM genuine male seeking a classy blonde for a mutually loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391085**

JEANETTE big brown eyed busty fit size 10 with lots of interest, searching for a sincere man to share love and life with. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374703**

JENNY very young shy black female looking for reliable, genuine nice older man to help me become an attentive lover, 40-70yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374701**

HELLO I'm Jane, attractive, genuine, caring, intelligent, romantic and single at 38yrs, what are you waiting for? Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374677**

ALISHA blue eyed petite brunette, likes to keep fit, cooking, holidays, seeks male 30-45 for special times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392399**

MICHELE very attractive black single mum, 32yrs, someone you could take home to your mother, seeking a one in a million guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391879**

GEORGINA likes horses, dogs, walks, seeks male, 60-72 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386426**

TANYA 28, beautiful black single mum, very body confident and all out of love. Lonely and looking for good company with experienced respectful man. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381727**

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SLIM tall, elegant, feminine, NS, solvent lady, young 50's, loves travel, red wine, seeks tall, sincere, military/professional gent of high calibre. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388071**

NICOLE lonely and looking for love, cultured, intelligent, beautiful, creative and looking for sincere male for mature loving ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388145**

JACQUELINE blue eyed attractive petite blonde, fit/active and social looking to meet similar kind male for ltr and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388137**

ELIZABETH 70 plus, enjoys life, GSOH, seeks caring man for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390990**

51YR old attractive Queen of the Jungle, seeking genuine, caring older gent for uncomplicated times together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390916**

JACKIE 32 attractive classy professional, blue eyes, brown hair, healthy/trim, well travelled, feminine, smart, seeks male, 40-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391013**

JAYNE honest sincere attractive lonely professional, OHAC, looking for fun times with similar lonely gent, age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390985**

LADY 70's, easygoing, likes most things, medium build, seeks gent for friendship, car owner. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387743**

ANNE 60, Christian, WLTM similar person. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390496**

AMANDA 25yr old easygoing singleton looking for fun times only with mature male, 35-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389733**

SOPHIE lonely fun attractive female, 21, looking for fun nights out and cosy nights in with similar male, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389731**

LADY 60's, bubbly, hurt in past, likes socialising, cooking, cats, holidays, seeks kind honest gent, 58-65 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389653**

KIRSTY 44yr going on 24yrs, sensual, attractive and in need of spoiling, and attention, seeks likeminded male for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383051**

BERYL 57, likes fishing, home life, seeks gent, 60-65. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382503**

NATALIE professional 30's female, no ties, everything a classy blonde should be, looking for special times with male up to 65yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391871**

YOUTHFUL 52yr old female, old fashioned, seeks N/S male, 52-56 to have a talk and laugh with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390771**

MARIE 45, Irish, GSOH, seeking male with GSOH and lots of energy for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391222**

JACKIE late 40's, attractive, slim, fun to be with, looking for friendship, maybe more. Enjoys walking, nights in and meals out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389283**

HI I'm Jane a 40yr old divorcee with 3 children, looking to fall in love again, seeks genuine, confident, very tactile male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386643**

TINA new to this and a bit nervous, lonely blue eyed 30yr old looking for male companion 30-50yrs. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386625**

SARA 31 tall sexy and single, lovely green eyes, outgoing and social WLTM tall down to earth stable male for poss ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386623**

WENDY cuddly 52yr old romantic, GSOH, N/S, likes reading, cinema, meals out, seeks male, 45-55 with GSOH to be my Knight in shining armour. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389614**

MARION 38 slim, sporty, fun with good personality, loves travel, holding hands and caring for people. Seeks genuine male, no time wasters. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383159**

VAL compassionate outgoing female with a big heart and no preconceptions just looking for love with similar minded male. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383155**

CARIBBEAN young lady, 30, caring, genuine, seeks young Christian gent, 30-40 who is dedicated to God for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386117**

SUSIE tactile 33yr old female who loves fast cars and motorbikes, seeks genuine male prepared to live life in the fast lane, 35-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382163**

LYNDA very attractive attached female, own transport and willing to travel, seeking similar natured male for extra circular activities. Must be discreet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386653**

KERRY blonde blue eyed cultured lady, very genuine, caring, seeking caring natured male 45-58 for loving romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386649**

48YR old female, seeks tall, caring male in the West Sussex area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388974**

SHARON 33, slim blonde, blue eyes outgoing, attractive, looking to put some much needed fun back into life, seeks male 30-45yrs. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383047**

PETITE French lady, likes to be pampered, seeks sugar daddy, 40-55 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379579**

FEMALE 58, widow, attractive, seeking mature gent, 60 plus with GSOH for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379649**

ATTRACTIVE 48yr old lady, slim, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes travel, cooking, working out, seeking loving man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390868**

MICHELLE fit trendy 40's female, no ties, good job, OHAC, fun to be with, looking for honest trustworthy male for friendship, poss ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389757**

51YR old male, good looking, seeking female for discreet fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391844**

JOHN 60, many interests, seeks female, any status for company and platonic friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391772**

ROMANTIC honest, caring male, 40, likes meals out, theatre, cinema, walks, seeks caring lady of similar age for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392893**

GEORGE sincere, slim, active, likes meals out, drives, seeks lady 70-85 to enjoy life and share happy times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392625**

PETE 40, dark hair, blue eyes, fit, likes dancing, walks, cinema, meals out, seeks female, 25-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391748**

RON 62, good at heart, divorced, looking for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392533**

HONEST early 40's male, 5ft 2ins, big heart, lots of love to give, WLTM petite lady for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392123**

RETIRED gent, carer, tall, gentle giant, likes cuddles, seeks female, 40 plus for walks, drives, chats and afternoon tea. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392071**

ADE early 40's, 5ft 10ins, medium build, looking for lady for mutual fun and good times together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384495**

Men Seeking

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JAMES 40's, good looking, single dad, seeking lovely lady for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393665**

EXPERIENCED fella 55, good fun, seeks lady, 35-55 for exciting times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393797**

MALE 56, seeks adventurous lady, 46-55 for uncomplicated friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393763**

HAPPY go lucky male, 50, GSOH, seeks female for relationship and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393739**

STEWART 50, 5ft 11ins, likes dancing, seeking companionship, maybe more with lady 40-50. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392178**

BRETT 35, enjoy socialising, cinema, travel, gym, seeking female, 25-35. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393883**

44YR old single man, 5ft 8ins, OHAC, N/S, seeking lady, late 30-40's for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392132**

AFFECTIONATE fun loving male, 50, good company, slim, dark hair, blue eyes, seeks female to share good times together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393649**

40'S male, nice looking, 6ft, seeking nice female to share time with. **Tel No:0906 515 7112 Box No: 391960**

PAUL 47, likes sports, nights out, seeks female for fun and friendship. **Tel No:0906 515 7112 Box No: 391954**

SINCERE male, 55, seeks attractive, sincere lady for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393591**

MATURE professional, semi-retired man, fit, well travelled, financially sound, not old but very well done, seeks elegant, mature, worldly lady for close companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393369**

STEVE 30, easy going, seeking mature female, 30-50 for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391932**

47YR old tall male, GSOH, seeking female for loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393071**

YOUNG 60yr old male, OHAC, seeking love and affection. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393055**

LIGHT hearted 58yr old male, 6ft, blue eyes, slim, lively, active, seeks pretty woman 28-50 for fun times. Croydon. **Tel No:0906 515 7112 Box No: 393567**

EARLY 50's male, medium build, brown eyes, likes theatre, meals out, good times, walks, swimming, seeks female for mutual fun. **Tel No:0906 515 7112 Box No: 393561**

DAVID 70 plus, seeks female, 55 plus for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No:0906 515 7112 Box No: 391994**

HANDSOME polite male, likes music, swimming, football, cricket, cooking, seeks respectful, attractive female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391812**

DAVID 70 plus, lonely, seeks lady, 70 plus for fun times and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391878**

STEVE 61, young at heart, 6ft 2ins, easy going, N/S, own home, divorced, likes music, cooking, conversation, country pubs, seeks female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391876**

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MALE 55, clean shaven, seeking similar male for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391796**

SMALL N/S male, early 50's, seeks larger older male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388386**

RICHARD 38, ex model, passive, likes horses, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379097**

33YR old bi male, seeking discreet male of similar age for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389236**

SUB bi guy 59, well built, seeks male for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389106**

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REDEVELOPMENT

Greens: Replace airports with leisure centres

By Dean Kilpatrick
dean.kilpatrick@archant.co.uk

AIRPORTS in Kent should be shut down and converted into leisure centres, according to dramatic proposals put forward by Kent Green Party.

It says it is opposed to suggestions of regional airports being expanded, and alternative uses of Manston and Lydd airports should be looked at.

However, their proposals have been dismissed as "pie in the sky" by a leading MP.

Greens spokesman Steve Dawe said: "Kent Green Party has made its opposition to airport expansion very clear through campaigning and submissions in recent years.

"We emphasise that Lydd and Manston should be converted to all-weather leisure centres as a boost to employment in these areas, and also to build up the domestic tourism offer of the east Kent area.

"Why does our Government want to favour people flying abroad for holidays rather than building up the quality of domestic tourism instead?"

Manston is regularly stated as an alternative to a proposed Thames Estuary airport, despite a recent history which has seen it struggle to persuade operators to persevere with the site.

Thanet North MP Sir Roger Gale insists Kent Green Party's plans are wide of the mark.

He said: "Curious, in this context, that it is the Green Party that has its head in the clouds while those of us who want to see Manston succeed have our feet planted firmly on the ground.

"Instead of backing the job-creating potential of Manston and recognising the importance of aviation in the south east to the national economy, the Green Party wants Manston and Lydd to be converted into all-weather leisure centres."

Chief executive of Manston Airport, Charles Buchanan, said: "Thanet is increasingly well served in terms of visitor attractions and making great strides in strengthening its visitor economy, thanks to the likes of the Turner Contemporary.

"What Kent needs is improved accessibility to help attract more high spending inbound visitors, and this would be delivered by a successful airport, and not as the Green Party has suggested doing by converting Manston, or Lydd for that matter, to 'all-weather leisure centres'."

However, campaigners against the expansion of Lydd Airport believe the proposals need to be considered, but the risks should also be assessed.

Louise Barton, of the Lydd Airport Action Group, said: "I am in favour of anything that brings tourism into the area because it is an ideal industry.

"I am not sure how practical a large leisure centre is though. What we want to see is walking and cycling in the marshes, with visitor numbers in the surrounding areas.

"In theory, I am in favour, but it may not be easy just because of the nature of the beast."

The government is currently welcoming responses to its draft aviation policy framework, with the consultation closing on October 31.

POSSIBILITY: Campaigners against the expansion of Lydd Airport say the leisure centre idea should be looked into

TECHNOLOGY

Radar boost to help jets as they fly above sea windfarms

UPGRADE: Charles Buchanan, Manston Airport chief executive, and Clive Hart, leader of Thanet District Council, with the airport's new radar

A MULTI-million pound high-tech radar system at Manston Airport this week went live.

It is hoped the investment will future-proof the airport's growth and development in passenger and freight services.

Crucially, the new system is able to distinguish between aircraft and the large off-shore wind turbines, which can confuse existing radar.

A spokesman for the airport explained: "Rotating wind turbines can look similar to a moving aircraft on the air traffic controller's display.

"By using a secondary radar, which communicates with a transponder fitted on aircraft, other radar images can be removed and the planes controlled safely as they fly above the wind farms."

Leader of Thanet District Council, Clive Hart, was on hand to witness the unveiling.

He said: "This is a clear example of how embracing new technology allows different industries to exist side by side.

"This is great news for Manston and the whole of east Kent and demonstrates we are open for business."

To ensure the air space over the wind farms operates safely, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has instructed that no aircraft, unless fitted with a transponder, will be able to fly in the vicinity of the two wind farms.

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KENT **REMEMBERED**

MAN ON A MISSION: Cookie was held in high esteem by the people of Folkestone, where he is buried

Unusual final resting place of a smuggler's son who turned to God

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

IT IS perhaps one of the most dramatic and unusual grave stones in the county and marks the final resting place of one of Folkestone's most colourful characters.

Sited in the large cemetery along Cheriton Road, the grave could be mistaken for a collection of stone and rusty metal.

But on close examination, it takes the form of a rock with a broken ship's mast rising from it, an anchor and chain, an open book and a stone hat.

And it is perched above the remains of mariner and preacher William Cook.

Cookie, as he was known, lived for many years in a small cottage on Dover Hill and was an enormously popular figure, with his name and deeds celebrated in song, prose and verse among the residents of his hometown.

The son of a smuggler, who died in a shipwreck, Cookie was born in 1815, and after some time at sea he turned to preaching.

He was active in the Temperance Movement which was against the drinking of alcohol.

Cookie would sing the following verse at his sermons – roaring the last line at the top of his voice.

"We throw down the bottle and the glass, Pick up the pledge book and pen, And sign, sign, sign, To be a sober man."

As well as preaching, Cookie would supply religious books to children and ships which called at Folkestone Harbour.

His addresses to large crowds included details of the missionary work he undertook among sailors – regarded at the time to be an ungodly bunch.

A contemporary account of his life reads as follows: "As a young man, according to his own testimony, he was 'as wild as anybody', but for half a century he had been identified with temperance work, and the religious instruction of the seafarer.

"But the special work with which Cookie's name will be handed down to posterity was his regular attention to the wants of Sunday school children, and the wonderful affection which existed between him and the last two or three generations of little ones of the east part of Folkestone.

"Every Sunday morning he had a certain round which he took for distributing pictorial card, leaflets, and little books, and the anticipation of this visit each week might have been seen by the children waiting at their respective doorsteps to greet Mr Cook, and to receive the little gift and cheery words of the kind old man – many of the children always clinging round him on his journey through the streets."

He was also celebrated in the words of a Folkestone folk-song...

A truly kind old man is William Cook,
For 40 years he's loved the Good Old Book,
His youth and strength were spent in doing good,
To cheer and bless, he's done whate'er he could.

After his death from cancer in 1888, the Union Flag was flown at half-mast over the Town Hall and hundreds of mourners attended his funeral.

The inscription on his gravestone – which also commemorates the life of his wife Mary Ann who died in 1914 aged 95 – reads as follows:

In Loving Memory of William Cook 'Cookie'.
Native of Folkestone
The Children Friend
One of the Founders of the first Band of Hope in the Town he originated the Bible-Bag-Mission for Seamen
And Sunday Distribution of Little Books
Amongst Children.
He Went Home September 22nd, 1888, aged 72 years
And was followed to the grave
By upwards of 4,000 persons
He Being Dead Yet Speaketh

Heb XI. 4

His last words were: "The old valiant sailor is going to receive his reward. Home, home, home."

OPINION

Why you should care about PCC

Chief reporter **Marijke Cox** on why we all need to get engaged and take an interest as polling day looms for Kent's most powerful police figure

HANDS up who knows what the Police and Crime Commissioner role is?

I'd lay a bet that not too many do, butthat's no criticism against you.

The reasons why, however, are not very clear. It's either the lack of publicity or simply that people don't really know enough about it to care.

But people should care. I can't dress this up and pretend the PCC process is exciting, in fact if it wasn't for my job I would perhaps be guilty of not taking much of an interest, but what I can say? Something that has been said by many before me: This is the biggest shake-up in policing in half a century.

The PCC is the person who will replace Kent Police Authority (KPA) and take over huge decisions such as setting the policing budget, setting the strategies and with the power to hire and fire the chief constable. And this person is to be chosen by us, the electorate.

So if we choose to ignore this and let the opportunity slip through our fingers we won't be able to moan if, heaven forbid, we end up with a power-hungry PCC selling off bits of our force or giving a good chief constable the boot.

We currently have KPA, an organisation which for years has worked quietly in the background monitoring Kent Police, setting budgets and tax levels.

But in November it will be dissolved and the work its committee once did handed over to one man or woman.

I cannot pretend to be an expert on the KPA, but I do know its members are elected by the authority. And there is a strong argument to say that an organisation deciding on how pubic funds should be spent should be more answerable to the public. The alternative will take that to the extreme.

Its replacement, the PCC, will be elected by us, with an extra trip to the polling stations just as winter draws in.

But elections brings politics to the table and party machines with their tireless canvassing and the risk people will vote out of habit rather than the person who is most suited to the job.

And with the PCC in for a four-year term, if we elect the wrong person for this important role, we then have four long years praying there won't be too much damage done until we can get rid of them.

However, all this aside, from the predicted turnout figures and our own survey carried out this week, Kent will be lucky if many people even bother to go out to vote at all.

Some suggest a mere 15 per cent of us will make the effort.

Of course, this does raise the question whether to inject

If we elect the wrong person we have four long years praying there won't be too much damage

some life into the contest someone with a real personality it needed to bring some much needed life to proceedings.

Love or hate Boris Johnson, everyone knows who he is, and I wonder if that is the only way to get people engaged in the process.

But that's a high risk strategy. The last thing this should become, after all, is a circus, but something needs to be done to make sure people get out there, take an interest, understand what the PCC involves and most importantly, vote.

Kent Police is struggling enough at the moment with deep cuts and the loss of hundreds of officers and 1,000 civilian staff.

We need the right person to help to lead the force through these tough times and the only way that will happen is if people sit up and take notice ready for the November election.

Once again, it's in our hands.

KOS COMMENT

Olympic Games are our golden moment

AFTER months of anticipation and planning, the Olympic Games finally kicked off this week.

And with the daily travel disruption and expected delays, it is easy to see why some may be counting down the days until it ends.

The advice is to plan ahead and leave earlier, but the hundreds of thousands of visitors descending on London will still have a huge impact on commuters.

But, as the eyes of the world are fixed firmly on us, let us not indulge in that very British passion of moaning and groaning and instead embrace a quite remarkable period in history.

All we need now is to win a few gold medals.

We're in safe hands

DESPITE the rise in serious sexual offences, the good news is crime continues to steadily fall, proving Kent remains, fundamentally, a safe and secure place to live.

The biggest fear now is whether with on-going cuts, our police can continue to fight crime on all fronts.

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Seagull on the Royal Military Canal, Hythe
by Colin Miles, Bapchild

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20mph zones are not safer

YET again there is an argument over possible further reductions to 20mph limits in towns and 40mph in the country.

There's just one hitch. Most of the arguments in favour of returning drivers to little short of a pre-1930 situation, centre on safety and accident, death and injury reduction.

It is now two years since several towns and cities started introducing blanket 20mph speed limits – so we have two years of accident statistics to study. Much has been made of the increase in accidents last year – but these figures deserve detailed study.

Those places with reduced speed limits and/or traffic calming, such as speed humps, most notably Portsmouth, Bristol and Oxford, now have the worst records in the country. Portsmouth spent more than £500,000 on their scheme, and saw a rise in killed and seriously injured (KSI): 38 per cent more pedestrians and 11 per cent more cyclists.

Although there was a 12 per cent reduction in KSI nationally, Portsmouth recorded a six per cent rise, despite a 12 per cent reduction in traffic within their 20mph zone. They also had more child casualties in the two years following introduction of the scheme than the annual average three years before.

In Bristol, overall casualties in the first year showed a net increase of three.

Oxford spent £250,000 on a scheme in 2009. Casualties rose by 10 from 2008-9; rising again in 2010 (latest available figures). The number of accidents (with KSI) also increased by seven in the following two years. I could go on – but the trend is clear.

The reduction of speed limits is a demonstrably failed policy that has been brought about by wishful thinking. Vast sums of money have been wasted – that could have been better spent on other safety measures, like road user education. By that I mean all road users.

How many times do we see cyclists flouting rules and pedestrians stepping into roads without paying the slightest attention – immersed in music or texting? Lower speed limits giving a false sense of safety? If they paid half the attention drivers have to I suggest we might see improved figures.

As for child safety, another fact often overlooked is that most child casualties do not occur outside schools, but elsewhere. That reduces the validity of calls to impose 20mph limits near all schools.

The Association of British Drivers has no objection to 20mph outside schools when needed – linked to the flashing signs most schools already have. But nobody employs a lollypop lady 24/7, to impose 20mph all day is stupidity.

There is another side to the speed argument that often gets overlooked. In 2008, the AA commissioned independent research resulting in the report Fuel for Thought – 20mph roads pump up CO2 emissions by 10 per cent.

In summary the result was that forcing traffic to travel at a low pace increases fuel consumption and emissions. That may have implications for air quality in 20mph zones.

A final word about our country roads. Blanket 40mph limits without repeater signs are a recipe for confusion and criminalisation of safe drivers. Rural lanes have functioned for decades as a "shared space" – without unnecessary regulation. Let them continue.

Ian Taylor
Association of British Drivers (Kent Branch)

Limits don't end danger

WE had a 20mph limit imposed in West Malling High Street after somebody was alleged to have been caught doing 60mph. They then abdicated responsibility to catch the speedsters and instead all of us now have to creep along at 20mph. The drivers who ignored the previous limit just disregard the new one, so no change.

Coupled with this, having lived in West Malling for some 40 years, I have to say I've yet to hear of a death or serious injury in the High Street due to somebody speeding.

Phil Granger, West Malling

Stop breaking the law now

NO doubt as a result of your story last week, there will be lots of people bleating on that dropping the speed limit will still see people break the law and it's only punishing the good, limit-abiding folk.

They will say the lawbreakers never get caught and pollution makes things worse.

They will, of course, be the same people writing letters about speed cameras.

For some reason we seem to think road laws are there just to annoy. Well if you break the law by going too fast the only person to blame is yourself. And if you're going so fast you cannot stop if someone walks out in front, the same applies, and on your conscience be it.

Kate Hill, by email

NO Estuary Airport

Airport will be too expensive

THE cost of a Thamest Estuary airport will be prohibitive.

Several figures have been mentioned in various publications which do not cover the cost of materials to be used for the entire base on which it would be located.

Thousands of tonnes of rock would be needed to establish the foundation. The project is an ego trip for Boris Johnson, with money from the taxpayer or foreign private investors wanting a healthy return.

Manston is the ideal location. There is space for an additional runway, terminal buildings, service hangars and parking. The M2 could be extended a few more miles for road access and a railway terminus constructed.

People knew the airfield existed long before they moved there. Modern aircraft are much quieter than of latter days, with much improved engines, less pollution, and rapidly ascend with a minimum of noise.

Perhaps we should ask the Eddie Stobart Group to take over and develop the airfield plus rail-link as they made a superb job at Southend, and it is a UK company. Local people would have stable employment in a sadly deprived area and it would be of great benefit to all in the region.

Ken Scrivner, by email

Please don't grow Manston

JUST what is the attraction of expanding Manston?

Who wants 24-hour noise, pollution and congestion?

In the main, people living around Heathrow are against any increase in flights. Think about it.

Bill Stevens, Faversham

ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA ...WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS

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Edited by **Adam Aiken**

Shining a light on grey area of inheritance tax

TONY HETHERINGTON
MONEY CLINIC

Q WHEN anyone inquires about inheritance tax, you always advise that there is no tax on bequests from husband to wife or from wife to husband.

But then you say that anything else in the deceased's estate above £325,000 is taxed at 40pc.

I thought the rules had been changed some years ago so that the children took on both their parents' allowances, and tax then was not due until the estate topped £650,000.

Is this not correct?

A I THINK it is important to remember not everyone is married or in a civil partnership, nor does everyone have children.

Nonetheless, the point you are raising is relevant to lots of people.

The basic rule is that bequests between spouses escape inheritance tax. So does the next £325,000 left by the deceased. Tax then takes effect at 40pc. But what happens if the deceased left everything to his or her spouse, and did not use the £325,000 tax exemption? Or suppose they simply did not have £325,000 to leave?

In this case, any unused part of the tax-free band can be passed to the surviving spouse or civil partner.

When the second partner dies, the inheritance tax starting point for their estate will be increased to include the exemption that was not used on the first death. But exemptions cannot be passed on to children.

Q I DO not work for HM Revenue & Customs, but I think they get a bad press.

Most people who are in arrears with tax must secretly know they have been underpaying, but feel if they keep quiet they may get away with it.

If you earn, say, £17,500 one year and pay roughly £2,000 tax through Pay As You Earn, it is common sense that if you earn roughly the same next year, but from different sources such as part-time earnings, a company pension and a state pension, yet you pay no tax, then something is wrong.

A YOU are right. If someone's income barely changes, then the fact that it might come from different sources will make little or no difference. If income stays the same but tax suddenly drops to zero, the chances are that something has gone wrong. But how often does this happen?

What we have seen from HMRC is mistakes on a massive scale. Six million taxpayers overcharged. One million taxpayers undercharged. And in April alone, 12,000 people received penalty notices fining them £100 for failing to file tax returns – after those same 12,000 people had already been told by HMRC that they did not have to complete tax returns.

I do not tell many people this, but I once worked for HMRC. In those days, we would not have dreamed of telling a member of the public it was their responsibility to understand the tax system and to check their own PAYE deductions.

Today, sadly, this is the response I get from HMRC when I ask how a reader is supposed to find a lump sum to hand over because the tax office failed to collect enough.

Q I HAVE left a considerable sum to two young children, but the wording of my will suggests that if I die while those children are still under 18, my executors will have done their duty if they hand the money to the children's parents.

What can I do to avoid the money simply being spent on a luxury cruise for the grown-ups?

A SEE A solicitor and have the wording of your will changed so that it creates a binding trust, with the money invested until the children are old enough to receive it.

Q I KEEP receiving mail from HMRC, addressed to a Mr Taylor. The most recent letter came from a debt collector.

I have returned all these letters and explained that they have come to the wrong address.

I even rang the Revenue and the letters did stop for a while but then began again.

Who can I contact to put this right?

A COMPLAIN to the Revenue Adjudicator (0300 057 1111). She is an outside official who investigates alleged wrongdoing by the taxman.

Usually, her involvement is enough to sort things out.

Q IF I retire abroad, can I leave my savings here in a tax-free ISA?

A Yes, existing ISA savings are fine and will still escape UK tax, but you cannot add any new money while you are abroad.

■ If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. We regret that neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.

Be sure to avoid pitfalls of 'accidental landlord'

If you choose to become a landlord it is of the utmost importance you tread carefully. **ADAM AIKEN** reports

By Adam Aiken
MyMoney24 editor

THE tight economic conditions of the past few years have seen a rise in the number of private landlords.

This has partly been down to a rise in demand from tenants who have found themselves unable to get on to the housing ladder.

But there has also been a rise in the number of "accidental landlords" – people who find themselves unable to sell their own homes so look to rent them out instead.

Whether you are actively looking to build up a portfolio of properties or are someone who has unwittingly joined the ranks of landlords, you need to take care. Even basics such as insurance need careful consideration – your existing home insurance policy will not be adequate (or even valid) for a buy-to-let property.

"We have seen an influx of more accidental landlords in recent months," said Carolyn Uphill, of the National Landlords Association (NLA).

"Often, these are homeowners who are struggling to sell their properties.

"These first-time landlords will frequently need advice and guidance to ensure they comply with the various regulations governing the letting of private-residential property.

"For example, they legally need to obtain a yearly gas safety certificate and also protect a tenant's deposit in one of three government-authorised tenancy deposit schemes."

Ms Uphill said communication skills and good organisation were also important for wannabe landlords.

"They must be able to communicate and advise their tenants appropriately in order to develop a good working relationship, but also possess the skills and knowledge to manage the financial aspect of their property," she said.

Rental yields vary across the UK, but the average is about six per cent. In other words, the average return on a property investment of £150,000 is £9,000 a year.

NLA chairman David Salusbury said: "There are currently a record number of people searching for rental properties, meaning would-be landlords would have no problem finding a tenant. Prospective landlords will need to remember they are effectively starting a small business.

"They must ensure they are well aware of the rules and regulations governing the letting of private residential accommodation."

CASE STUDY

Hasmita Reardon became a landlord 15 years ago, and today owns a portfolio of more than 70 rental properties in Kent. Here she offers tips for people looking to buy a property and then rent it out...

WHEN YOU ARE BUYING

- Shop around for a mortgage because interest rates, fees, deposits and criteria vary.
- Always consider the location of the property because you may need to sell it one day. Think about parking, schools and amenities.
- Haggle over the price. If you lose the property, don't worry. It is not worth paying over the top for investment property. This is not about buying your dream home.
- Consider the type of tenant you will be likely to attract. For example, buying a three-bedroom property in a village will attract families for the long term, while a third-floor city-centre apartment will attract a young professional couple or a single professional.
- Make sure your mortgage payments are affordable for housing benefit tenants. Even if you are looking for private tenants, they can lose their jobs or fall ill and be forced to apply for housing benefit.
- Don't expect to make money straight away. Renting is hard work.
- Buying near where you live means you can manage it yourself, and it makes it easier to deal with any problems that might arise and to do regular viewing.

ONCE YOU HAVE BOUGHT

- Consider joining local landlord forums and attend landlord meetings held by local authorities.
- Always keep a contingency fund in your bank account to cover at least three months' mortgage payments and money for maintenance.
- If you want to rent out the property without using an agent, join a landlord association such as the NLA. Make sure you become an accredited landlord, and learn how to issue correct documents to the tenants.
- Before you rent out your property, carry out credit checks on potential tenants, and ask for a deposit and a guarantor. Always get all documents signed at the start of the tenancy.
- You can end up with tenants who do not respect your property, so checks at regular intervals are vital.
- Try to build a good relationship with your tenants. A tenant worries about having a good landlord as much as a landlord worries about finding the right tenant.

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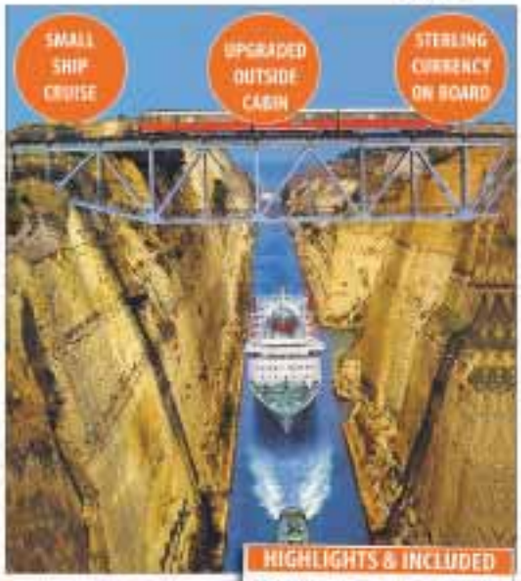

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	17, 24, 31 August	3	£99
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4 Days

£439pp

Quote MR12-KOS

7 December, 2012

Our big-little-adventure combines the glamour of the French Riviera and Monaco with the thrill of European rail travel. Travelling by Eurostar train, then the swift TGV train to Nice on the French Riviera, the journey promises to be as exciting as the places we will visit. In Nice, our base for this break, there's a charming Christmas market and a big wheel which provides great views over Nice and back towards the Alpes Maritimes. The highlight is undoubtedly a full-day visit to Monaco, which positively buzzes during the Christmas period with sparkling lights everywhere and a monumental 18-metre Christmas tree outside the famous Casino.

INCLUDED:
- Escorted throughout
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CONTACT US...

IF you have a business story or any news you think we should be covering in this section, reporter **Nick Ames** would like to hear from you. You can phone him on **01303 817181**, or alternatively email **nick.ames@archant.co.uk**.

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Sophisticates need to act now if you want your money back

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

IF offered the choice of being "sophisticated" or otherwise, most people would probably opt for the former.

But, according to a leading financial analyst, in today's chaotic economic times, being non-sophisticated could well turn out to be no bad thing.

Nick Paterno of Sidcup based accountants McBrides thinks that SMEs who have found themselves financially crippled after agreeing to loans hedged by "cap and collar" restrictions are about to be recompensed – but only "non-sophisticated" clients will automatically be considered.

He said he feels the FSA's announcement that businesses effectively mis-sold this type of product can now claim redress from the big four – Barclays, HSBC, RBS and Lloyds – is good news for thousands of SMEs and could mean the difference between life and death for many trapped with crippling interest rates as a result of entering into these agreements.

Paterno, said: "Don't wait for the banks to act. If you are classed as a 'sophisticated customer' you will need to make your own application."

TAKE ACTION: Nick Paterno

The FSA deems "non-sophisticated" customers as those classed as lacking expertise and understanding of the product they were sold.

Not all businesses will be given redress and the amount will vary from customer to customer. It could include a mixture of cancelling or replacing existing products, together with partial or full refunds of the costs.

Paterno said: "We have seen many businesses fall on very hard times as a result of 'cap and collar' agreements. It is a very complex area and many firms entered into these type of loans without fully understanding the consequences and have paid the price.

"Most are stuck with paying unreasonably high rates of interest as a result of buying these products at a time when the economy is in recession and base rates are at record low levels.

"Firms need to look at their agreements and act accordingly if they want redress."

The FSA announced that it had found 'serious failings' in the sale of interest rate hedging products, but was overlooked by many firms as the Barclays LIBOR fixing scandal reached its peak. Worst affected are those businesses that signed up for this type of loan between 2005 and 2008, when interest rates were much higher. As rates have plummeted, the businesses have been left paying the higher rates.

Paterno added: "Most who signed up to this type of agreement thought they were protecting themselves against wide fluctuations in interest rates, but were given inadequate explanations of the risks."

The banks have agreed to stop marketing interest rate structured collars to retail customers and will provide redress directly for those customers that bought the most complex products.

In the past 11 years, banks have sold around 28,000 interest rate protection products to customers, which range from comparatively simple caps that fix an upper limit to the interest rate on a loan, through to the more complex derivatives such as "structured collars" which fix interest rates within a band.

Interest rate hedging products can protect bank customers against the risk of interest rate movements and can be an appropriate product when properly sold in the right circumstances, says the FSA. However, it found a range of poor sales practices, including poor disclosure of exit costs, failure to ascertain the customers' understanding of risk and sales being driven by rewards and incentives to staff.

The FSA's Martin Wheatley said: "For many small businesses this has been a difficult and distressing experience with many livelihoods affected."

AWARD

Public have final say on travel shortlist

DFDS Seaways has been shortlisted for the prestigious Best Cross Channel Operator Award and the Best Ferry Operator Award 2012 in this year's British Travel Awards (BTAs).

The Dover to France ferry company now operates routes to both Dunkirk and Calais. The Dover to Calais route was launched in partnership with LD Lines in February 2012.

Chris Newey, (pictured) passenger director for the English Channel at DFDS Seaways, said: "We are thrilled to have been shortlisted for both the Best Cross Channel Operator Award and the Best Ferry Operator Award 2012. 2011 was a great year for DFDS Seaways, which saw record growth for both passenger and freight business.

"With the launch of the Dover to Calais route, we have strengthened our offering and can provide up to 44 crossings a day."

All companies entered for an award were put before a core selection of industry professionals, who whittled the nominations down to the list of final nominees. The next stage sees the shortlisted firms put before the public vote.

TAX

Rates cut for firms hit by high street cobble works

BUSINESSES in Ashford's Lower High Street are to get a reduction in their business rates as a result of disruption during recent works.

The Valuation Office has announced a 20 per cent reduction in their rates for the period of time covering recent re-pointing works.

The work by Kent County Council to re-point the cobbles in Lower High Street has resulted in the market being moved and significant screening being put in place. Since work began, traders have been affected by a reduction in footfall, increased noise and disruption in deliveries due to the road access being closed.

The move comes after lobbying of the Valuation Office by Ashford Borough Council and the Town Centre Partnership.

The rate reduction will be effective for the entire period of the works. Those eligible for the rate relief will be contacted by the Valuation Office directly.

Economic development manager, Andrew Osborne said : "Ashford Borough Council and the Town Centre Partnership have worked hard to try to mitigate the impact of the Lower High Street works on our businesses.

"We are pleased that affected businesses will benefit from a rate reduction."

MEDIA

Olympic success for radio with on air broadcasts for Games

MISKIN Radio, based at North West Kent College, has taken to the airwaves in time for the London 2012 Olympics.

It is a new local radio station set up and launched by one of the college's media lecturers, Andrew Sayers.

Mr Sayers has been working in radio since he was 14, and is now focusing on providing North West Kent with its own radio broadcast.

Miskin Radio has already made an impression since its internet debut in April 2012, with more than 4,000 listeners.

On July 16 the station went live on 87.9FM, where it will remain until August 12, to enable local coverage of the 2012 Games. After this, the station will remain accessible to listeners via the Miskin Radio website, but staff hope to secure a full-time licence from OFCOM in 2014.

Mr Sayers said: "This is a

community radio station for anyone who is interested in radio and the media industry. Our team includes a mixture of radio professionals, volunteers and students from North West Kent College. Our aim is to provide a radio service for people to get involved in."

Pat Sharp and Gary King have also joined the team.

Both experienced broadcasters, Pat Sharp has presented for Capital Radio, Heart, Radio 1 and currently Smooth FM. Gary King has presented on Radio 1, Heart and Capital FM.

To listen to Miskin Radio tune in to 87.9FM or listen live via the internet at www.miskin-radio.co.uk. To contact them email info@miskinradio.co.uk.

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Raise your glass to one of the world's finest beers

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

A NEW English beer made by a Kent winemaker has been named as one of the world's best lagers in the brewing industry's equivalent to the Oscars.

The annual International Beer Challenge – which has been judging the world's best beers for the past 16 years – has awarded the ultimate accolade of a gold medal to Chapel Down vineyard, near Tenterden, for its Curious Brew premium lager.

The vineyard bought its wine making techniques to the table to create the beverage, which is a reaction to bland tasting brews which dominate the market, according to its creators.

The prestigious annual competition attracts entries from the world's largest breweries as well as microbrewers.

This year, judges tasted more than 400 beers before declaring the Kent winemaker's lager to be the best of its class.

The competition deemed only 30 beers, from countries including Belgium, Germany, Italy, New Zealand and the USA, to be of gold-medal standard. Curious Brew was one of only three lagers globally to be awarded a golden gong.

US brewery Samuel Adams – whose beers are being marketed by Shepherd Neame – picked up the other two lager gold medals for its Double Bock and A Dark Night in Munich.

Chapel Down, which only started brewing beer two years ago, uses East Anglian malt, saaz and cascade hops.

The whole process is overseen by Frazer Thompson, Chapel Down's chief executive officer, who previously held senior jobs at Heineken and Whitbread. He said: "We've changed people's minds about English wine and now we want to do the same when it comes to lager.

"Mass-produced lagers have the aroma of market research rather than hops. We've worked really hard to craft something more fragrant and more refreshing than other beers when served cold.

"We started brewing beer as we sell all the wine that we produce and our customers were asking for more product. We deliberately avoided cask ale and turned to an area of the market which needed refreshment – lager.

"Our beer is fermented using Champagne yeast and a late hop dosage adds a blast of flavour. So it's a beer totally unlike the usual corporate cardboard."

Pubs including the Five Bells at Brabourne; Three Tuns, Sittingbourne; and White Hart, Hythe, all stock the beer, which is also on sale in Jamie's Italian restaurants.

MP visits expanding business park

A BUSINESS park built on what was once the site of a former railway station has celebrated the latest phase of its expansion, with Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark opening two new units.

Hawkhurst Station Business Park has grown since the old railway station closed in 1961 and is home to a number of companies.

To celebrate the latest phase of development, owner Peter Dunlop welcomed Clark and more than 50 guests to a site which has become one of the largest centres of employment in the region.

Also present was design and build specialist Directline Structures, which has been responsible for much of the development.

Dunlop, who runs his own business, Kent Woodware, from the site said: "I'm the third generation to run the business. My grandfather started the firm in 1911 when he rented land here. We used to manufacture wooden components for the bedding, brush and tool handle trades.

"My father bought the site when the station closed in 1961 and when I joined in 1966, trade was booming, while the business park was also attracting other traders."

Clark applauded the Dunlop family for its "commitment and dedication" to creating and managing a business park which has continued to provide valuable employment opportunities for the people of the Weald.

Duncan Murray, managing director of Directline Structures, said the new units had been designed with the needs of each tenant in mind: "The buildings are also very environmentally-friendly. For example, sustainable drainage measures mean very little rainwater runs off the site, helping minimise flood risks in the area and also returning valuable water to the earth to replenish dwindling supplies."

CELEBRATION: Greg Clark, right, meets business people at Hawkhurst Station Business Park

The new units are being occupied by two companies already operating from the site. Family-owned importer and distributor Maws Fine Foods needed larger premises to expand.

Desserts manufacturer Rhokett is a multi-million-pound business founded in 2002 by leading patissier Martin Dockett with support from celebrity chef Gary Rhodes.

A skilled team of pastry chefs specialises in the manufacture of premium-quality desserts, sorbets, ice cream and iced specialities which are supplied to blue chip customers across the UK.

Duncan Murray said: "Maws has moved into the new unit from the old engine shed, while Rhokett is expanding from another unit we built five years ago. We will now extend the engine shed before another business on the park moves in there. Phase three of the estate is expected to commence soon."

TRANSPORT

Trains cash in on changes to our holiday preferences

EUROSTAR, the high speed rail service between the UK and mainland Europe, has reported continuing growth in passenger numbers and a "resilient performance" in sales revenues in the first half of 2012.

In the first six months of the year, passenger numbers rose by two per cent to 4.8 million from 4.7m in H1 2011. Sales revenues remained robust, growing by one per cent to £425m in H1 2012 from £421m in the same period last year.

The growth over the first half of the year has been driven by leisure travel as customers on both sides of the channel continue to enjoy leisure breaks.

Business travel, which was broadly flat in the first quarter of 2012, weakened in the second quarter as the number of public holidays and the eurozone crisis impacted on many business customers' travel plans.

Nicolas Petrovic, chief executive of Eurostar, said: "We have delivered a resilient performance in the first half of the year despite the difficult economic climate. Leisure bookings have continued to grow and we have seen good take-up for travel to London over the summer period.

"During the jubilee we had one of our busiest weekends on record and we are looking forward to welcoming visitors from across Europe to enjoy all the attractions London has to offer.

"While leisure sales have held up over the last six months, there is no doubt that corporate clients and business travellers, particularly in the financial services industry, are feeling the squeeze and cutting back on their travel budgets as they adapt to the economic environment.

"The combination of economic pressures and the London 2012 Games has meant we are seeing different travel patterns this year. The traditional European summer close-down for business is kicking in earlier as all eyes turn to the Olympic celebrations in London."

Training, courses and careers

Apprentice sweeps the board when he aims to build for brighter future

JORDON Coleman has been chiselling out a name for himself in recent months, after scooping the prestigious title of Kent Apprentice of the Year, and he is now looking to knock-up more success at the national finals.

The apprentice bench joiner has dazzled after working for Canterbury-based Cardy Construction.

He recently took the accolade of Best in Kent 2012 in bench joinery.

And as if this considerable accomplishment was not enough, Jordon was also runner up in the joinery division of the South East England Skill-Build regional heat competition for trainees in the construction industry and now goes forward to the National Apprentice Finals later in the year.

Canterbury-educated Jordon joined the Cardy team when he left school in August 2010.

He enrolled as part of the construction skills scheme at Canterbury College to pursue his chosen career as a joiner. The varied nature of Cardy's bespoke joinery department enabled Jordon to take full advantage of his enthusiasm for the job and – supported by a team of colleagues – he has already cemented his position within the workshop.

Jordon held off stiff competition to win the awards, which are acknowledged and supported by the main construction skills colleges in the county and Cardy is pleased its commitment to training and the apprenticeship scheme continues to pay dividends.

The company trains most of its workforce and currently has six other apprentices in various trades now eager to challenge Jordon, 21, for the company's own Best Apprentice award.

Stuart Gremo, managing director of Cardy, said: "He is a great lad and has proved himself in so many ways. I am sure he has a great future ahead of him. He excels at everything thrown at him.

"He scooped all the local Apprentice of the Year awards which are sponsored by colleges throughout Kent, and came second in the Best Apprentice/Trainee Awards for the whole of the south of England and now goes forward to the National Finals later in the year."

Jordon's Best in Kent 2012 for bench joinery is in association with Thanet College, North West Kent College, Canterbury College, MidKent College and K College.

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call us on 01303 817136.

WINNER: Jordon Coleman with his Best in Kent certificate and trophy

Electricians learn the finer details of renewables

ENGINEERS at MidKent College are responding to the threat of climate change with a new focus on renewable technology.

From this September students who enrol on the Level 2 diploma in electrical and electronic engineering course will tackle new units covering subjects such as wind and solar energy.

This is in addition to existing units that focus on welding, fabrication and more.

The college said it realises just how important these skills will be for future generations.

Lecturer Stephen Row explained: "It is important our courses reflect the world our students live in, and at the moment it's one where people are desperately trying to reduce their carbon footprint.

"There is now a clear desire to use more renewable sources of energy as a result, which should open up thousands of new jobs for those qualified to work in the relevant industries.

"MidKent College is dedicated to teaching its students the job skills employers today are looking for, so the decision to introduce these new units was an easy one to make."

The diploma in electrical and electronic engineering is a practical, work-related course that also helps students qualify for work in electronic production and the technical services field. Other units include working safely in engineering, mathematics for technicians, operation of mechanical systems and more.

Visit www.midkent.ac.uk for more details.

Scholar nurses a passion for great garden designs

A PROMISING garden design student has won a major scholarship.

Melinda Diamond, pictured, became a Hadlow College BA honours student and has now been awarded the 2012 Anne Wright Scholarship.

It entitles her to spend six weeks at the late Christopher Lloyd's garden at Great Dixter, where she will be able to feed her passion for the Arts and Crafts Movement alongside head gardener Fergus Garrett.

Melinda, a practice nurse by profession, has just completed her second year at Hadlow and is excited by the prospect of working within this iconic garden. She is also looking forward to learning how Great Dixter is managed and how Christopher Lloyd's globally-recognised work continues to evolve year-by-year.

She said: "By chance I will be 'between jobs' this summer so it is an ideal moment to take time out to do something special for myself, which I feel sure will enhance my future plans to work as a garden designer. My now adult family all encouraged me to apply."

An official award ceremony took place at Great Dixter, the rambling Sussex manor which was the family home of Christopher Lloyd, one of the most inspired plantsmen and garden writers of the 20th century.

The house and gardens are open to the public until October 28, entry charges apply.

Visit www.greatdixter.co.uk for more information about the house and gardens.

Children experience joy of animals

THE Aspinall Foundation continued its valuable education work by taking a group of Chernobyl victims around its Port Lympne animal park.

The Chernobyl Children's Lifeline, known as CCLL, paid a visit to the park near Folkestone as part of a programme offering children affected by the nuclear disaster recuperative holidays while teaching them about the value of animal care and breeding.

Adrian Harland, animal director, said: "It is always a pleasure to welcome the children from CCLL, they have all been affected in some way by the Chernobyl disaster and it's a pleasure to give them an enjoyable experience."

This was the third year a group of children from CCLL have visited the wild animal park and this year they were joined again by actress Rula Lenska, a passionate supporter of animal charities, who first introduced the children to Port Lympne.

Rula said: "As always, the welcome and the magic of the wild animal park will stay in the minds of these special children for many years.

"The privilege of being able to hand feed the lemurs was a particular joy and when we were on the safari the gorgeous giraffe who came to have a closer look thrilled me and the children.

"On behalf of them and myself I thank Port Lympne with all my heart for giving these children an unforgettable experience. Port Lympne is a special place, full of special animals and special people who look after them."

CCLL is a charity that supports children and families in Belarus and Ukraine, the countries most affected by the Chernobyl disaster. Recuperative holidays are just a small part of the help that they provide. The charity also delivers humanitarian aid, provides holidays in Belarus for disabled children, sets up projects to improve the lives of children with disabilities and provides training, practical and financial support to promote the development of palliative care.

Schools & education

Shortlist recognises good learning

A STORE manager has been shortlisted for Retail Learner of the Year, meaning she gets the chance to meet retail entrepreneur and TV Dragon Theo Paphitis at a star-studded ceremony in central London.

Rickie Strevens, 33, from Swanscombe, was unemployed for three years when she signed up for an eight-week introductory Retail Works course at The Learning Shop, Bluewater.

Impressing her tutor with her tenacity, drive and enthusiasm, the course gave Rickie the insight and confidence she needed and helped her secure a permanent full-time position at Mr Simms Olde Sweet Shop in Bluewater. Within months, Rickie was promoted to store manager. As a reward for her hard work and incredible journey, Rickie has now made the shortlist for the Skillsmart Retail Rising Stars Awards, run by Retail Week.

Rickie said: "The training enabled me to find the confidence to resume looking for employment."

The Skillsmart Retail Rising Stars Awards recognises and celebrates up and coming talent in all areas of retail, from apprentices just starting out in the industry to buyers and marketeers at the top of their game. All must demonstrate the outstanding aptitude and initiative that singles them out as ones to watch for the future.

The ceremony at Grosvenor House Hotel in London's Mayfair will take place on September 5, and will see winners walk away with one of 17 prestigious Rising Stars trophies. These winners will then be in with a chance of being the overall Rising Star of the Year.

For more details see www.retailweekrisingstars.co.uk.

THE BEST: Students at Canterbury College are celebrating once again having the UK's top Students' Union

College union wins gold, again

THE Students' Union at Canterbury College has once again beaten colleges across the country to become the best in the UK at the NUS Awards.

It was voted best FE Students' Union at the awards ceremony at Exeter University.

The victory continues the college's record breaking run at the awards. It is the fifth consecutive year Canterbury College's Students' Union has finished in a top three position – a feat unmatched by anyone else. It previously won the award in 2010.

Union manager Tony Payne was delighted with the win, he said: "I'm completely blown away. It's such an achievement for us now that we've been in the top three for the past five years. To be winners again is a huge credit to the students and shows the quality of what we do. We continue to keep the bar really high."

In the past year, the union has arranged more affordable bus travel to college for students, spearheaded the national Blue Monday campaign, was involved in the international Peace One Day campaign and has held a series of Olympic-inspired events that promote the values of the Games.

Judges for the awards included Google industry leader Paul Coffey, Sky Sports News presenter Rob Wotton, Spotify's UK managing director Chris Maples and Martin Doel, chief executive for the Association of Colleges.

Raechel Mattey, NUS Wales Deputy President, praised Canterbury College's Students' Union, adding: "It has a strong relevance to students and puts them at the heart of what they do. They're an excellent model of a college Students' Union and continue to go from strength to strength."

Getting active is now easier than ever as children can learn football

A NEW summer soccer school is taking place for youngsters in Medway.

All Saints Children's Centre and Chatham Riverside Football Club have teamed up to train youngsters during the school holidays.

The children are split into three age groups; four to six, seven to nine and 10 to 11.

The soccer school will run on Saturdays in the holidays – July 28 and August 4, 11, 18 and 25.

All of the sessions are at the Thomas Aveling School, Arethusa Road, Rochester, from 10am until noon.

Both boys and girls are welcome, with entry priced at £2 per family per week.

Medway Council's Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, Cllr Les Wicks, said: "The soccer school sessions are a great way to get active and have fun during the summer holidays.

"Not only are they affordable, but they are also open for the whole family to enjoy.

"There's plenty going on at all of Medway's 19 Sure Start centres this summer, which have once again gone that extra mile to give families a fun packed summer break full of affordable activities, many of which are free."

Parents can book for all or some sessions, but places are limited so early booking is advised. For more information and to book a place call 01634 338833.

HIGHER EDUCATION
at Half the Cost of University

North West Kent College offers a range of Higher Education (HE) courses at half the cost of University. From £4,995 students can gain a foundation degree qualification or Higher National Diploma/Certificate and improve their chances of employability, while still living at home.

The Dartford campus, where most of the courses will be delivered from, offers free parking and is accessible by easy transport links via rail, bus and the College free shuttle bus.

The College provides Foundation Degrees affiliated by The University of Greenwich and Higher National Diplomas/Certificates (HND/C) by Edexcel.

These qualifications involve close links to industry, and after two years students have the opportunity to apply to top-up their qualification to a degree, or go straight into industry. It is also possible to work while studying on several of the HE programmes.

The HE courses include; Business, Early Years, Photography, Professional Writing, Sports Science and Sports Studies. The College are also introducing new HE courses from September, in; Performing Arts, Travel and Tourism and Public Services. In addition, the College offers a part-time HNC in Electronic and Electrical Engineering at the Gravesend campus.

Curriculum Manager for Higher Education, Brian Starbuck says: "We understand the rising cost of tuition fees is making it difficult for people to go to University. We are confident that by offering higher education courses at a lower cost, it will make it easier for potential students to achieve this."

The Business HND develops the knowledge, skills and attributes appropriate to administrative and management careers in a variety of areas of business. Elements of the course include; quantitative techniques, economics and business functions.

The Early Years Foundation Degree provides opportunities to progress into teaching or management with a potential progression onto an Early Years Professional Status course. The course will benefit students by developing confidence for the work place, problem solving and project management.

Photography is ideal for people with a passion for the art who have a desire to make a living from their images. The programme covers studio and location photography, portraiture, digital post production, advertising and editorial photography, plus critical and contextual studies.

Professional Writing focuses on developing ways of turning creative ideas into revenue. The course has generated an effective stepping-stone for students to progress onto becoming published authors or moving into creative industries such as press, advertising and script-writing.

Sports Science is based on the science behind sports performance, which underpins the theory and practical elements of a range of subjects including; practical sports performance, fitness training, sports psychology, health, and anatomy. The course is ideal for students who wish to pursue careers such as; fitness coaches, personal trainers, sports nutritionists, sports psychologists and teachers.

Sports Studies provides students with an insight into the world of sports coaching and the sports industry. The course covers practical performance, coaching, anatomy and sports event organisation. The programme aims to produce physical education teachers, coaches, sports development officers and leisure centre staff.

The Miskin Theatre's Performing Arts course will benefit actors and technicians, providing them with the relevant training and experience to prepare them for drama school or to start work directly within the industry.

Public Services address a range of areas from justice and punishment to psychology. The course would be an advantage to students who wish to progress in a career, such as; the police, the fire service or the armed forces.

Travel and Tourism covers a variety of subjects from marketing, to visitor attraction management. The course is ideal for those who would like to increase their career prospects within the travel and tourism industry.

The student places for these courses will be sought after, so please get in touch while they remain available. North West Kent College 0800 074 1447.

www.nwkcollege.ac.uk

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You will be the first point of contact for all inbound enquiries and will use your technical understanding to provide accurate information before securing their business.

You will need to have great attention to detail as you will be invoicing completed jobs and liaising with our technicians for progress on repairs and stock availability to give customers the most up to date information.

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Field Based, office in Smeeth Nr Ashford

Archant KOS Media is looking to recruit highly driven, confident, self-motivated team players to work on our portfolio of products which consist of newspapers, magazines and digital platforms. You will need to be able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets.

Working with an existing client base where customer service is paramount, you must also be able to search out new business to develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities.

You will be building long-lasting relationships with organisations throughout Kent.

Ideally you will be from a sales or marketing background and have the drive, tenacity and determination to succeed. Basic knowledge of computer systems is required.

A full driving licence is essential.

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If you are a highly driven, confident, self-motivated team player with good communication skills, who is able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets, then apply for this job today.

You will be office based and working with an existing client base of advertisers where customer service is paramount, but you must also be able to search out new business to develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities.

We pride ourselves on good customer service, professional marketing solutions and excellent business relationships. We provide innovative ideas that will in return give our clients real value and response.

Media experience is not essential as full training will be given, however good numeracy, literacy and computer skills are required.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

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RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancy available:

CAREERS PROGRESSION ADVISOR

Fixed Term to 21st December 2012 - Maternity Cover

To operate a client-centred vocational progression programme of careers education, providing comprehensive information, advice, guidance and careers education. To support progression of existing and potential students to internal college programmes, employment, Higher Education, partner organisations or self-employment.

The role attracts a salary of £9,830 - £11,520 per annum, for 18.5 hours per week, all year, plus a contributory pension scheme, 25 days pro rata holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

Interview Date: Wednesday 15th August 2012

For further information about us and an application form please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk or if you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052.

Closing date: Wednesday 1st August 2012

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PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

Programme Area Manager for Catering and Hospitality

We have a rare opportunity for an outstanding individual to join a College which is changing fast and building on an exceptional reputation in Catering and Hospitality. We offer our students the best learning and training experience in a dynamic and inspiring environment and we are looking for someone who meets our exacting standards and is seeking an exciting role.

You would be leading an established team, characterised by excellence and recognised internationally. Our students have just been named Young Restaurant Team of the Year at the Skills for Chefs Conference. One of them won the prestigious Auguste Escoffier Foundation competition this year at Menton, France, and we are now in the 10th year of our National Juniorchef competition, judged by Gary Rhodes.

The role attracts a salary of £33,917 - £38,358 per annum, all year, plus a contributory pension scheme, 36 days holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

For further information about us and an application form please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk or if you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052.

Closing date: Wednesday 1 August 2012

Interview Date: Wednesday 29 August 2012

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We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

PROGRESSION MENTOR

To work as part of the Progression team, to support students in their personal development, enabling them to become independent learners who enjoy and achieve and are able to reach their full potential.

The role attracts a salary of £15,255 - £18,027 per annum, 42 weeks per year, plus a contributory pension scheme, 23 days paid holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

Interview Date: Tuesday 21st August 2012 **Closing date: Wednesday 8th August 2012**

LEARNING SUPPORT PRACTITIONER/ MENTOR FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Fixed Term until 3rd July 2013

To provide support for students on a 1:1 basis, working as a member of the team to support students with a range of conditions in an HE environment.

To ensure that the students learning opportunities are maximised to enable a successful outcome.

The role attracts a salary of £5,271 - £5,869 per annum, 15 hours per week, 38 weeks per year, plus a contributory pension scheme, 23 days paid holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

Interview Date: Tuesday 14th August 2012 **Closing date: Wednesday 1st August 2012**

JOB COACH / LEARNING SUPPORT PRACTITIONERS

To support adults with a learning difficulty and/or disability to develop skills to enable progression from College into employment. To assist with recruitment, interviewing and assessment processes and empowering learners to work independently and integrate with other colleagues in the workplace.

The role attracts a salary of £9,800 - £10,543 per annum, 30 hours per week, 38 weeks per year, plus a contributory pension scheme, 23 days paid holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

Interview Date: Thursday 28th August 2012 **Closing date: Wednesday 1st August 2012**

For further information about us and an application form please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk or if you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052.

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We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

Inclusive Education Facilitator Team Leader

To facilitate the College's inclusive provision from KS3 through to KS5 and promote delivery approaches which raise the quality of alternative curricula and impact on the achievements and aspirations of all students, in a safe, stimulating and supportive learning environment.
To lead the Inclusive Education team.

The role attracts a fixed point salary of £27,187 per annum plus a contributory pension scheme, 41days holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

Interview date: Monday 20th August 2012

Inclusive Education Facilitators

To facilitate the College's inclusive provision from KS3 through to KS5 and promote delivery approaches which raise the quality of alternative curricula and impact on the achievements and aspirations of all students, in a safe, stimulating and supportive learning environment.

The role attracts a fixed point salary of £25,589 per annum plus a contributory pension scheme, 41 days holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

Interview Date: Tuesday 21st August 2012

Inclusive Education Practitioners

To facilitate the College's inclusive provision from KS3 through to KS5 and promote delivery approaches which raise the quality of alternative curricula and impact on the achievements and aspirations of all students, in a safe, stimulating and supportive learning environment.

The role attracts a fixed point salary of £15,022 per annum, for 38 weeks worked per year, plus a contributory pension scheme, 23 days paid holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

Interview Date: Wednesday 22nd August 2012

For further information about us and an application form please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk or if you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052.

Closing date: Wednesday 1st August 2012

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The Duke of York's Royal Military School

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For September 2012

Receptionist/Administrator - Part-time

Act as point of contact for telephone enquiries, meet and greet visitors, general admin tasks. Ideally you need 3 yrs admin / receptionist exp, plus experience in Microsoft packages.
22.5 Hours, Mon- Fri, 1230-1700 hrs plus 4 hrs Saturday morning's term time only. Salary £15000 pa (pro rate)
Interviews: Tue 28th Aug

IT Support Engineer - Full-time

Provide help desk support, assisting with hardware & software problems inc carrying out technical duties to ensure smooth running of the school systems. Ideally 2 yrs previous experience in similar role, strong working knowledge of Microsoft based operating systems i.e. Windows 7 & Server 2008, some TCP/IP network experience and full driving licence.
37 Hours, Mon-Fri plus occasional Saturdays. Salary range £18,000 - £22,000 pa.
Interviews: W/C 28th Aug

Housekeeper - Part-time

To provide essential cleaning services in a Boarding House inc deep clean during holidays. Assist in the absence of the House Matron i.e. answer telephone, deal with parents & laundry. Applicants must be prepared to fully contribute to the general welfare of pupils and to work as part of a small team. Experience of working with children, a current first aid qualification would be an advantage.
30 Hours, Mornings Mon-Fri. Salary: £14644 pa (pro rata).
Interviews: W/C 28th Aug

Medical Centre Assistant - Part-time & Term Time Only

Act as contact point in the Medical Centre for telephone enquiries, coordinating appointments/transport and general domestic tasks, cleaning, supervision and escort pupils to appointments. Applicants must be prepared to fully contribute to the general welfare of pupils, be flexible & able to work as part of a small team. Experience of admin role, cleaning and use of Microsoft packages is essential. Experience of working with children, full clean driving licence & first aid qualification would be an advantage.
30 Hours, Mon-Fri, 0730-1330, term time only. Salary: £15000 pa (pro rata).
Interviews: W/C 28th Aug

Closing date for ALL posts: Midday Thursday 16th August.
Last applications will not be accepted

An application form & further details of all the posts can be located on the school's website www.doyrms.com, emailing reception@doyrms.com or 01304 245023. CV's will not be accepted.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Candidates must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post including checks with past employers and an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau.

PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancy available:

LECTURER IN CONSTRUCTION

To raise aspirations, develop skills and deliver quality across a range of courses in the Programme Area.

The role attracts a salary of £25,589 - £30,205 per annum, all year, plus a contributory pension scheme, 41 days holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

Interview Date: Monday 20th August 2012

For further information about us and an application form please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk or if you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052.

Closing date: Wednesday 1st August 2012

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THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

LECTURER IN SPORT

To raise aspirations, develop skills and deliver quality across a range of courses in the Programme Area.

The role attracts a salary of £25,589 - £30,205 per annum, all year, plus a contributory pension scheme, 41 days holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

Interview Date: Thursday 16th August 2012

LEAD LEARNING SUPPORT PRACTITIONER

For Students with Autism and Emotional Behaviour Disorders

To line manage a team of Learning Support Practitioners in the Hub (designated area for students with autism and emotional behavioural disorders), and to be the main point of contact for support queries within the division.

The role attracts a salary of £13,941 - £16,474 per annum, 38 weeks per year, plus a contributory pension scheme, 23 days paid holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

Interview Date: Thursday 16th August 2012

For further information about us and an application form please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk or if you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052.

Closing date: Wednesday 8th August 2012

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Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:.

Lecturer in Hair — *Ref: P0559*

Salary: £26,336 to £30,118 per annum(dependent on qualifications and experience)
37 hours per week. Maidstone Campus

We have an exciting opportunity to recruit a passionate individual to teach, assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes. The applicant must have NVQ level 3 and A1 awards, with a minimum of 18 months A1 experience and should hold, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Experience of apprenticeships and salon management would be desirable. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Music Tutor — *Ref: P0263*

Salary: £26,836 - £31,218 per annum depending upon experience and qualifications
37 hours per week. Medway Campus

Experienced Music Tutor is required to teach Level 2 and 3 Music. Experience of BTEC qualifications and Internal Verification is essential. The applicant should have previous professional experience and knowledge of the current music industry. Ability to direct and support a range of music students within rehearsals is necessary with a sound knowledge of music theory.

Musical Theatre Tutor for Level 3 and 4 — *Ref: P0272*

£26,836 - £31,218 depending upon experience and qualifications
37 hours per week. Medway Campus

Mid-Kent College is looking to recruit an enthusiastic and dedicated Musical Theatre Lecturer to join a successful Performing Arts Team. Teaching within a thriving performing arts department, the successful candidate will have strong vocational experience and be able to co-ordinate and work alongside existing teachers to develop and expand Musical Theatre within the college and in the local community. The candidate will be responsible for planning and delivering, to a high standard, specialist units to Levels 3 & 4 students on the BTEC Extended Diploma in Musical Theatre and the Level 4 HNC/D in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre).

Lecturer in Social Science — *Ref: M0431*

Part-time, Fixed Term Maternity Cover
£17,753 - £34,505 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
18.5 hours per week. Medway Campus

We are looking for an enthusiastic and experienced Social Science lecturer to join our Access to Higher Education team. They will need to have experience of teaching both Psychology and Sociology, preferably to adult learners. The successful candidate will hold, or be willing to work towards, a recognised teaching qualification.

The successful candidates must be excellent teachers who share our passion for success and who take a proactive approach in promoting and developing the courses within the Faculty.

Closing Date: 12 noon on Thursday 2 August 2012

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:.

Lecturer in Hair — *Ref: P0559*

Salary: £26,336 to £30,118 per annum(dependent on qualifications and experience)
37 hours per week. Maidstone Campus

We have an exciting opportunity to recruit a passionate individual to teach, assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes. The applicant must have NVQ level 3 and A1 awards, with a minimum of 18 months A1 experience and should hold, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Experience of apprenticeships and salon management would be desirable. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Music Tutor — *Ref: P0263*

Salary: £26,836 - £31,218 per annum depending upon experience and qualifications
37 hours per week. Medway Campus

Experienced Music Tutor is required to teach Level 2 and 3 Music. Experience of BTEC qualifications and Internal Verification is essential. The applicant should have previous professional experience and knowledge of the current music industry. Ability to direct and support a range of music students within rehearsals is necessary with a sound knowledge of music theory.

Musical Theatre Tutor for Level 3 and 4 — *Ref: P0272*

£26,836 - £31,218 depending upon experience and qualifications
37 hours per week. Medway Campus

Mid-Kent College is looking to recruit an enthusiastic and dedicated Musical Theatre Lecturer to join a successful Performing Arts Team. Teaching within a thriving performing arts department, the successful candidate will have strong vocational experience and be able to co-ordinate and work alongside existing teachers to develop and expand Musical Theatre within the college and in the local community. The candidate will be responsible for planning and delivering, to a high standard, specialist units to Levels 3 & 4 students on the BTEC Extended Diploma in Musical Theatre and the Level 4 HNC/D in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre).

Lecturer in Social Science — *Ref: M0431*

Part-time, Fixed Term Maternity Cover
£17,753 - £34,505 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
18.5 hours per week. Medway Campus

We are looking for an enthusiastic and experienced Social Science lecturer to join our Access to Higher Education team. They will need to have experience of teaching both Psychology and Sociology, preferably to adult learners. The successful candidate will hold, or be willing to work towards, a recognised teaching qualification.

The successful candidates must be excellent teachers who share our passion for success and who take a proactive approach in promoting and developing the courses within the Faculty.

Closing Date: 12 noon on Thursday 2 August 2012

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College

To advertise in this section 01303 817056

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer in Beauty, Part-time — Ref: P0357

Salary: £26,336 - £30,118 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
Medway Campus, 22 hours per week

The College is currently looking to recruit a dynamic and enthusiastic Lecturer in the Beauty Department to deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part time learners. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Lecturer in Beauty, Part-time, Fixed Term, Maternity Cover — Ref: P0367

Salary: £26,336 - £30,118 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
Medway Campus, 18.5 hours per week

The College is currently looking to recruit a dynamic and enthusiastic Lecturer in the Beauty Department to deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part time learners. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Travel & Tourism — Ref: SESS

Hourly rate: £23.44 - £24.30 (dependent on qualifications and experience). Medway Campus

The College is currently looking to recruit a dynamic and enthusiastic Lecturer in the Travel and Tourism Department to deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part time learners. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Jobshop Apprentice, Full-time — Ref: P0021

Maidstone Campus

We are looking for an enthusiastic individual who will benefit from gaining their first NVQ Qualification whilst working in our in-College Jobshop. The successful candidate will work towards the apprenticeship framework including a relevant NVQ Level within Business Administration. Training allowance: £6,314 per annum plus reward bonus upon successful completion.

e-Marketing Officer, Full-time — Ref: P0610

Salary: £18,759 - £24,045 (dependent on qualifications and experience). Medway Campus

A creative and dynamic individual with excellent communication skills is required to implement the College's e-marketing strategy. Duties will include promoting the College through online advertising, maintaining and optimising its external website, and engaging with online social media networks. The successful candidate will be capable of producing outstanding written work in an appropriate style, and be able to demonstrate the enthusiasm and aptitude required to learn the necessary technical skills needed to perform the role effectively. Previous experience in the sector is not essential.

Hourly-paid Lecturer in Maths — Ref: SESS

Hourly rate: £23.44 - £31.10 (dependent on qualifications and experience). Maidstone Campus

We are looking for a knowledgeable and experienced candidate to deliver the one-year Maths A Level programme. The successful candidate will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant academic qualification and have a teaching qualification.

Hourly-paid Lecturer in Sport — Ref: SESS

Hourly rate: £23.44 - £24.30 (dependent on qualifications and experience). Medway Campus

We are looking to appoint an experienced candidate to deliver Sports programmes at various levels. The successful candidate will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Lecturer in Catering and Hospitality — Ref: P0369

Salary: £26,336 -£ 30,618 per annum (dependent on qualifications and experience)
Medway Campus, Full-time

We are looking to appoint a passionate and creative individual to teach on a variety of practical catering qualifications, facilitating student learning and achievement. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification. The post holder will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Recent industry experience is essential.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Catering and Hospitality — Ref: SESS

Hourly Rate: £22.45 - £27.22per hour (Dependent on Qualifications and Experience). Medway Campus

We are looking to appoint a passionate and creative individual to teach on a variety of practical catering qualifications, facilitating student learning and achievement. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification. The post holder will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Recent industry experience is essential.

Lecturer in Health & Social Care, Part-time — Ref: P0563

Salary: £26,336 - £30,118 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
Maidstone Campus, 22 hours per week

We are seeking a knowledgeable individual to deliver CACHE Childcare and Health and Social Care programmes at levels 1, 2 and 3. The successful candidate will be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods and have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Health and Social Care Industry. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Interviews will take place in the week beginning 27th August 2012. Part-time sessional work may also be available; applicants should indicate whether they would like to be considered for part time work in their application.

Lecturer in Health & Social Care, Part-time, fixed term maternity cover — Ref: M0564

Salary: £26,336 - £30,118 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
Maidstone Campus, 22 hours per week

We are seeking a knowledgeable individual to deliver CACHE Childcare and Health and Social Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidate will be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods and have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Health and Social Care Industry. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Interviews will take place in the week beginning 27th August 2012. Part-time sessional work may also be available; applicants should indicate whether they would like to be considered for part time work in their application.

Catering Assistant, Part-time, term time only — Ref: P0550

Salary: £13,807 pro rata. Maidstone Campus, 18.5 hours per week

The successful applicant will have experience of working in the catering industry and understand the importance of health and safety in the kitchen and restaurant environment. The postholder will be expected to support the catering and hospitality lecturers to ensure that students observe safe practices and clean their working areas as well as carrying out cleaning duties as required. A qualification in food safety/hygiene is desirable.

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Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

MidKent College

PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

The University of Kent, Canterbury

University of Kent

Copyright and Licensing Compliance Officer

£31,020 - £35,938
35 hours/week

Information Services manages a number of software and copyright licences on behalf of the University, and the primary responsibility of this post is to ensure that the University complies with the law through appropriate licensing agreements and that Information Services offer an excellent advice and referral service on licensing and copyright to members of the University. The post holder will be the University's expert in both copyright and software licensing. The post holder will need to have an excellent and demonstrable understanding of copyright law, fair use, fair dealing and/or specific software licensing arrangements.

Applications must be made online via the University website; please search for vacancy reference **OTR0539 – www.kent.ac.uk/jobs**

Closing date: **05 Aug 2012**

To discuss the role please contact
Anne Maruma on **a.maruma@kent.ac.uk**
or **01227 823818**.

THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancy available:

PROGRESSION MENTOR

To work as part of the Progression team, to support students in their personal development, enabling them to become independent learners who enjoy and achieve and are able to reach their full potential.

The role attracts a salary of £15,255 - £18,027 per annum, 42 weeks per year, plus a contributory pension scheme, 23 days paid holiday and a comprehensive range of staff benefits.

Interview Date: Tuesday 21st August 2012

For further information about us and an application form please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk or if you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052.

Closing date: Wednesday 8th August 2012

THANET COLLEGE

Promoting Equality
Preventing Discrimination

Visit our website at www.thanet.ac.uk

BE PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY

Advertise here

Call 01303 817056

www.kentnews.co.uk

To place your notice here call the Kent Public Notice team on

01303 817044

PLANNING

Town and Country Planning Acts

12/01951/CAC — **Sissinghurst Primary School The Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Conservation Area Consent - Partial demolition of redundant school buildings (CA)

12/02009/FUL — **Ashton Lodge 69 London Road & The Lancers 34 Church Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden**
- Re-joining of Ashton Lodge and The Lancers to form extended living space in Ashton Lodge and a granny flat. Replacement of The Lancers boundary fence (LB)(CA)

12/02011/LBC — **69 London Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden**
- Listed Building Consent: Re-joining of Ashton Lodge and The Lancers to form extended living space in Ashton Lodge and a granny flat. Replacement of The Lancers boundary fence (LB)

12/01997/FUL — **Shearnfold Oast Church Road, Goudhurst**
- Demolition of farm buildings and erection of four bed detached dwelling. Oast house to be retained as residential annexe (LB)

12/02013/HOUSE — **16 Lansdowne Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- Two storey (basement and ground floors) rear extension (CA)

12/01975/FULMJ — **Tesco Plc Pembury Road, Pembury**
- Development of foodstore, park and ride facility & recycling centre with associated landscaping, engineering & highway works (TW/96/01797allowed on appeal 97/00013) - variation of condition 9 - to extend trading hours over the Olympic Period between 0600 to 2300 Mondays to Saturdays and 0900 to 2000 on Sundays (MAJOR)

12/01946/HOUSE — **4 Draper Mews Draper Street, Southborough Town Council**
- Stainless steel chimney flue (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 28 July 2012

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

PLANNING

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Local Government Act 2000

1. As required by the Local Government Act 2000, each month Kent County Council publishes a Forward Plan of key decisions expected to be taken during the following six calendar months. The definition of a key decision is "an executive decision which is likely to:

   (a) result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or in the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates, (the current figure which applies to this is unbudgeted savings or expenditure of £1m.

   (b) be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral division in the area of the local authority."

2. Each Forward Plan contains a list of documents that will be submitted to the decision-makers for consideration in relation to the decisions to be made. Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of, or extracts from, any document listed in the Forward Plan are available, together with any other relevant documents, from the person named in the appropriate Forward Plan entry.

The dates for publication of this plan during the next 12 months are:

Tuesday 1 January to 28 June 2013	Monday 1 July to 31 December 2013
Friday 1 February to 31 July 2013	Tuesday 1 August to 31 January 2014
Friday 1 March to 30 August 2013	Monday 2 September to 28 February 2014
Monday 1 April to 30 September 2013	Tuesday 1 October to 31 March 2014
Wednesday 1 May to 31 October 2013	Friday 1 November to 30 April 2014
Monday 3 June to 29 November 2013	Monday, 2 December to 30 May 2014

The Forward Plan of key decisions can be read on www.kent.gov.uk/your council and at the Council's Corporate Library throughout Kent.

Geoffrey Wild
Director of Governance and Law
Kent County Council
Sessions House
County Hall
Maidstone
ME14 1XQ

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL Town and Country Planning Act Notice of Applications

MA/12/0954/N - BISHOPS, AVERY LANE, OTHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 8RZ - Conversion of existing garage to single dwellinghouse including various alterations and additions and demolition of existing stable block. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/1012/N - HILLBECK RESIDENTIAL HOME, ROUNDWELL, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4HN - Erection of two storey side extension. **Reason: 1, 6**

MA/12/1087/N - GORE COTTAGE, ASHFORD ROAD, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4NG - Listed Building Consent to erect a two-storey rear extension. **Reason: 3**

MA/12/1088/N - GORE COTTAGE, ASHFORD ROAD, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4NG - Two-storey rear extension. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/1146/S - WILLOWS, SHEEPHURST LANE, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9NS - Conversion of existing garden store/workshop to granny annex. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/1147/S - WILLOWS, SHEEPHURST LANE, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9NS - Listed Building Consent for Conversion of existing garden store/workshop to granny annex. **Reason: 3**

MA/12/1202/N - THE TEN BELLS, UPPER STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1SE - Conversion of existing building to two dwellings and erection of three dwellings in rear of site. **Reason: 4**

MA/12/1203/N - THE TEN BELLS, UPPER STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1SE - An application for conservation area consent for the demolition of existing extensions. **Reason: 2**

MA/12/1206/S - 2, HAMMONDS COTTAGE CHEVENEY FARM, VICARAGE ROAD, YALDING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6DY - Application for Listed Building Consent for the erection of a two storey side extension, insertion of dormer window to front, single storey rear extension and other alterations. **Reason: 3**

Reasons for advertisement key:
1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
4 - Application is for Conservation Area Consent.
6 - Application is Major Development.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **12th August 2012**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 29th July 2012

To advertise in this section
01303 817056

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y12/0531/SH - 83 Bouverie Road West Folkestone Kent CT20 2PW - Removal of one Sycamore and one Bay tree, together with removal of branches of a Beech, all situated within a conservation area.

Y12/0669/SH# - 10 Mill Road Dymchurch Romney Marsh Kent TN29 0NY - Erection of a two storey side extension (re-submission of Y10/0643/SH).

Y12/0654/SH# - St Martins Field Ashford Road New Romney Kent - Works to a Horse Chestnut (T2) and a Sycamore (T5), both situated within a conservation area and comprising the removal of a half broken branch and reduction of crown to give a minimum of 2 metres clearance from neighbouring property (T2) and removal of one branch on east side (T5).

Y12/0619/SH+ - 57 High Street Hythe Kent CT21 5AD - Display of an externally illuminated fascia sign.

Y12/0569/SH+ - 57 High Street Hythe Kent CT21 5AD - Change of use of ground floor from hot food takeaway (Class A5) to a nail bar (Sui Generis).

Y12/0644/SH - 11 Encombe Sandgate Folkestone Kent CT20 3DE - Works to two Holm Oak trees, a Yew tree and a Sycamore tree the subject of Tree Preservation Order No. 8 of 2002.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

- The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

\+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

KCC/AS/0252/2012 - Proposed development at Hothfield Works, Watery Lane, Westwell, Ashford, Kent, TN25 4JJ.

Tarmac Limited is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for a Section 73 planning application to permanently vary condition 5 of planning permission reference AS/90/608 to enable 60 'out of hours' working periods per annum.

You may view this application via a computer link at the following locations: (a) Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford; and (b) Tenterden Gateway, 2 Manor Row, High Street, Tenterden.

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the Borough Council website.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2011

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 24 OF DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

SW/11/1291 - Proposed development at Land to the North of the DS Smith Paper Mill, Kemsley, Sittingbourne, Kent.

I give notice that on 16 July 2012 having taken environmental information submitted in support of the proposal into consideration Kent County Council granted planning permission for the development of an Anaerobic Digestion Plant and associated equipment including gas powered electrical generators for the treatment of waste water effluent generated from the adjacent Kemsley Paper Mill.

You may view copies of the application, the environmental statement and the planning permission at Swale Borough Council offices, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT or at the offices of the Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications using application reference SW/11/1291.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 29 July 2012

Planning applications

Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA//12/00263/TPO: Elms Court, 46 New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3DT Crown thinning and reduction of Yew tree (T1) and various trees in four groups (G1-G4) subject of TPO No 5 of 1994. **Applicant: West and Partners Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/00551/FUL: Land rear of 3-7 Borstal Hill, Whitstable, CT5 4LX Erection of detached dwelling and garden/cycle store.
Applicant: Mr P Relton Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//12/00715/FUL: St Martins Windmill, 6 Windmill Close, Canterbury, CT1 1PT Retrospective application for the erection of a timber garage.
Applicant: Dr Davidson-Burnet Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.
CA//12/00855/FUL: 9 Ickham Court Farm, Ickham, CT3 1QQ Installation of solar panels to rear garden of dwelling. (Retrospective).
Applicant: Miss Hampshire Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01007/FUL: 16-18 Oxford Street, Whitstable, CT5 1DD Partial change of use of part of car park to public house garden with associated works and erection of boundary wall. **Applicant: J D Wetherspoon PLC** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01061/FUL: 28 Albert Street, Whitstable, CT5 1HS Replacement of timber windows from timber to uPVC. **Applicant: Mrs P Rybacki** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01076/LB: The Beaney, 18 High Street, Canterbury, CT1 2RA Installation of two wall-mounted banners on High Street elevation.
Applicant: The Beaney Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//12/01129/LB: Prezzo, 3 High Street, Whitstable, CT5 1AP Internally illuminated panel over main entrance, two externally illuminated projecting signs, two internally illuminated menu cases and four planters with non-illuminated lettering/logos. (Retrospective application).
Applicant: Prezzo Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//12/01135/FUL: Middle Pett Farm, Pett Bottom, Bishopsbourne, CT4 5PD Erection of cold store and hardstanding.
Applicant: FW Mansfield & Son Reason: Major and affects setting of a listed building.
CA//12/01137/FUL: Bridge Methodist Church, Patrixbourne Road, Bridge, CT4 5BP Change of use from place of worship (Use Class D1) to residential dwelling (Use Class C3), single-storey extension and associated external alterations. **Applicant: Mr Howe** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01138/FUL: The Coach House, Denne Hill Farm, Womenswold, CT4 6HD Change of use of former Coach House to dwelling and holiday accommodation and erection of detached double garage. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Roddy F Loder-Symonds** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//12/01151/ADV: The Beaney Institute, High Street and 14/15 Best Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2RA Erection of two wall-mounted banners on High Street facade and totem sign in front of High Street elevation (non-illuminated) and two wall-mounted banners, wall-mounted totem (non-illuminated), four illuminated poster cases and illuminated wall-mounted sign on Best Lane elevation. **Applicant: The Beaney**
Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//12/01153/FUL: Land to the rear of 137 Canterbury Road, Herne Bay Erection of detached dwelling with associated parking.
Applicant: Mr Jackson Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01184/OUT: Former Telephone Engineering Centre, Littlebourne Road, Canterbury, CT1 1TN Outline application for redevelopment of site to provide 93 dwellings, access, estate roads, landscaping, public open space and play area. **Applicant: BT plc** Reason: Major development.
CA//12/01197/FUL: Land adjacent to 62 Chestfield Road, Chestfield, CT5 3JH Demolition of detached garage and erection of detached two-storey dwelling. **Applicant: Mr S Howard** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01199/LB: The Kings School Shop, 45 Palace Street, Canterbury, CT1 2DZ Internal and external alterations associated with change of use for educational purposes. **Applicant: The King's School** Reason: Work to a listed building.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to **development.management@canterbury.gov.uk** to arrive on or before **Monday 20 August 2012.**

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 27 July 2012

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 13 AUGUST 2012

SW/12/0758:
Demolition of existing flats, erection of 14 dwellings with associated parking - Ambleside, Ennerdale, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 3 & 4**

SW/12/0835:
Opening of new window on east elevation, 3 air conditioning condensers on east elevation; replace existing roller shutter door with new window on west elevation - Favco Associates, Unit 11, Jubilee Way, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/12/0886:
Provision of all user path crossing over shallow ditch adjacent to Victory Wood car park - Victory Wood, Dargate Road, HERNHILL; **REASON 3**

SW/12/0902:
Replacement of 1 & 2 Rhode Common Cottages, Selling, Dunkirk with 2 eco houses - 1 & 2 Rhode Common Cottages, SELLING; **REASON 4**

SW/12/0906:
Variation of condition (3) of SW/04/1302 to allow mobile home to be sited 35m from Holywell Lane - The Paddocks, Holywell Lane, UPCHURCH; **REASON 4**

SW/12/0934:
Erection of a new timber panel boundary fence - Minster Abbey, High Street, MINSTER; **REASON 2**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

VILLAGE GREENS - IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMONS ACT 2006 - SECTION 15(1)

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF LAND AS A VILLAGE GREEN

Application has been made to the Registration Authority, Kent County Council, by Ms. S. Williams under section 15(1) of the Commons Act 2006 and in accordance with the Commons Registration (England) Regulations 2008. The application seeks the inclusion in the Register of Town and Village Greens of the land described in the Schedule below which is claimed to have qualified for registration as a Town or Village Green by virtue of the use of the land for the purposes of lawful sports and pastimes 'as of right' and without challenge by the landowner for a period of over 20 years.

If the Registration Authority is satisfied that the land described below qualifies for registration as a Town or Village Green, it will so register the land.

The application, which includes a plan of the land proposed for registration, may be inspected at the offices of Kent County Council at the address below. Please contact the Commons Registration Team on 01622 221628 to make an appointment prior to visiting to ensure that a member of the team is available to assist you.

Any person wishing to make representations regarding the application should send a written statement of the facts upon which the representation is based to Miss. Melanie McNeir at Kent County Council, either by post at the address below or by email to commons.villagegreens@kent.gov.uk, so as to arrive no later than Monday 10th September 2012. Please quote reference VGA642. Representations must include the name and postal address of the person making them and the nature of their interest (if any) in the land affected by the application. They must also be signed by the person making them and state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that any representations that are to be taken into account by the Registration Authority in reaching a decision on the application cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain during the processing of the application. Copies of any objections or representations received will be forwarded to the applicant for comment and may be disclosed to other interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

Description of the land claimed to have qualified for registration as a Village Green

An area of land of approximately 1.4 acres (0.6 hectares) in size, situated between the playing field at Great Chart Primary School and the rear of properties in Bishop's Green in the Singleton area of the town of Ashford.

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTAH AW366 (PART) CHARING)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2012

The above named Order made on 12 July 2012 under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 will divert the entire width of that length of public footpath AW366 which commences at NGR TQ 92633 48765 (Point A) and runs in a north north easterly diection, thence in a northerly direction for 270 metres, where it enters the main complex of school buildings at NGR TQ 92696 49021 (Point B). The path then turns in a west north westerly direction for 13 metres, thence in a northerly direction for 24 metres and thence in a north westerly direction for 11 metres, where it exits the main complex of school buildings at NGR TQ 92677 49062 (Point C). The path then turns in a generally north north easterly direction for approximately 64 metres to its connection for Egerton Road (C144) at NGR TQ 92705 49119 (Point D) and will add a new length of public footpath numbered AW366, which commences at NGR TQ 92633 48765 (Point A) and runs in a north north westerly direction for 5.5 metres. At this point the path passes through a 2 metre wide gap in the boundary fencing (Point H on the Order Plan). The path continues to run in north north westerly direction for 64 metres, where the path passes through another 2 metres wide gap in the boundary fencing (Point I on the Order Plan). The path continues to run in a north north westerly direction for a further 92 metres before passing through another 2 metre wide gap in the boundary fencing (Point J on the Order Plan). The path continues to run in a north north westerly direction for 6 metres where it passes onto a defunct access track at NGR TQ 92592 48928 (Point E). The path then turns to run in a north north easterly direction - along the defunct access track - for 114 metres to NGR TQ 92636 49032 (Point F), where it leaves the old access track, and thence in a northerly direction for 64 metres, where it passes through a 2 metres wide gap in the hedge - located on the school boundary - at NGR TQ 92639 49097 (Point X), then immediately crosses a sleeper bridge - over a drainage ditch - for a distance of 1.2 metres and thence continues for 1.5 metres to its connection with Egerton Road (C144) at a point 3.5 metres west of the schools access drive at NGR TQ 92640 49100 (Point G)..As shown on the Order Plan.

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of Ashford Borough Council, Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1AS or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent in writing to Sonia Coventry at the Kent County Council (address as below). (Tel: 01622 221512) (email: sonia.coventry@kent.gov.uk) not later than 29 August 2012. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

NOTICE OF MODIFICATION ORDER
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(FOOTPATH AT268 AT WOODCHURCH)
DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2012

The above Order was made on 6 July 2012 under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. If confirmed, it will modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding a footpath which commences on Rectory Close at NGR TQ 9408 3494 (point A on the Order plan) and initially runs in a south-easterly direction for 46.5 metres with a width of 5.5 metres; the path then turns to run in an east-south-easterly direction for 40 metres with a width of 2.9 metres; the path then turns to run in a northerly direction for 24 metres with a width of 2.5 metres where it terminates at the boundary of All Saints Church at NGR TQ 9415 3492 (point B on the Order plan) (between the points A and B). The path has a total length of 110.5 metres.

All distances approximate, all directions general.

A copy of the Order and Map may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1AS or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may also be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order must be sent or delivered in writing to MRS MARIA McLAUCHLAN at the Kent County Council (address as below) no later than 9 September 2012. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

If no such representations or objections are duly made to the Order (or to any part of it), or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council, instead of submitting the Order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if the Authority has by Notice to the Secretary of State so elected under paragraph 5 of schedule 15 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) may itself confirm the Order (or that part of the Order). If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment (in whole or in part), any representations or objections which have been duly made and not been withdrawn will be sent with it.

PROW - IN THE CITY OF CANTERBURY

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH CB92 IN THE PARISH OF WESTBERE

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH CB92)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has temporarily closed Public Footpath CB92 at Westbere level crossing,

between Walnut Tree Lane and Westbere Marshes from the 16th July 2012.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that an application to further extend the closure will be made to the Secretary of State.

The path is to be closed because there is a likelihood of danger to users and Network Rail wish to investigate options for improving the existing crossing arrangements.

The alternative route, within Network Rail land, will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Louise Adams

PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF DOVER

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH EE255 (PART) EASTRY)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2012

The above named Order made on 12 July 2012 under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 will divert The entire width of that length of public footpath numbered EE255 which commences at NGR TR 3130 5464 (Point A) and runs in a south south-westerly direction for 66 metres to NGR TR 3127 5458 (Point B) to meet with Brook Street and will add a new length of public footpath numbered EE255 with a width of 2.5 metres which commences at NGR TR 3130 5464 (Point A) and runs in a south-easterly direction for 52 metres to NGR TR 3134 5461 (Point C) to meet with Brook Street; the width of the path at Point C is reduced to 2.0 metres. As shown on the Order Plan

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of Dover District Council, The Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent, CT16 3PG or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent in writing to Sonia Coventry at the Kent County Council (address as below). (Tel: 01622 221512) (email: sonia.coventry@kent.gov.uk) not later than 29 August 2012. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF MODIFICATION ORDER
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(FOOTPATH EE46 (PART) AT ASH)
DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2012

On 13 July 2012 the Kent County Council confirmed the above Order without modifications.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by deleting the entire width of that section of public footpath EE46, which commences at NGR TR 3180 5982 (point A on the Order plan) and runs in a north-westerly direction for 4 metres, and then in a north-north-easterly direction for 187 metres to NGR TR 3186 6000 (point B) (between the points A-B on the Order plan); and by adding a public footpath numbered EE46 with a width of 1.2 metres, which commences at the aforementioned point A and runs in a north-north-easterly direction for 190 metres to NGR TR 3187 6000 (point C) (between the points A-C on the Order plan).

All distances approximate, all directions general.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and Map may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent, CT16 3PG or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may also be purchased there.

This Order became operative as from 13 July 2012 but if a person aggrieved by the Order desires to question the validity thereof or of any provision contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of Section 53(3)(c)(i) OR OR 53(3)(c)(iii) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, or that any of the requirements of Schedule 15 to the Act have not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he may, under Paragraph 12 of Schedule 15 to the Act, within 42 days from 29th April 2012 make application for the purpose to the High Court.

PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF SEVENOAKS

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH SU18 IN THE PARISH OF SEVENOAKS

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH SU18)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has temporarily closed Public Footpath SU18, between the wall and steps into Knole Deer Park (NGR TQ 542 551) and the junction with Public Footpath SU23 (NGR TQ 542 547) from the 18th July 2012.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 19th August 2012.

The path is to be closed because works are planned on the wall and steps and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is along the permissive path on the north side of the wall to join up with SU23 to the east and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Nicky Biddall

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE & MALLING

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH MU29 IN THE PARISH OF TONBRIDGE

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH MU29
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has temporarily closed Public Footpath MU29, footbridge between the junction with Public Footpath MU28 (NGR TQ 581 462) and Douglas Road from the 20th July 2012.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 31st August 2012.

The path is to be closed because the existing footbridge is being replaced with a new footbridge.

The alternative route will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Michele Snoding

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH MR473 (PART) AT AYLESFORD)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2012

The above named Order made on 6 July 2012 under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 will divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered MR473 which commences at NGR TQ 7298 5892 (point A on the Order plan) and runs in a north-west direction for 34.5 metres and then in a north-north-east direction for 29 metres (for a total length of 63.5 metres) to its connection with the High Street (C349) at NGR TQ 7296 5897 (point B on the Order plan (between the points A and B); and will add a new length of public footpath numbered MR473 with a width of 2.0 metres which commences at the aforementioned point A and runs in a north-north-easterly direction for 49 metres to its connection with the High Street (C349) at NGR TQ 7299 5897 (point C on the Order plan) 27.5 metres east of the aforementioned point B (between the points A and C).

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent in writing to Mrs Maria McLauchlan at the Kent County Council (address as below). (Tel: 01622 696871) (email: maria.mclauchlan@kent.gov.uk) not later than 26 August 2012. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact Kent Countryside Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

Kent County Council

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

VILLAGE GREENS - IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMONS ACT 2006 - SECTION 15(1)

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF LAND AS A VILLAGE GREEN

Application has been made to the Registration Authority, Kent County Council, by Mrs. J. Kollnberger under section 15(1) of the Commons Act 2006 and in accordance with the Commons Registration (England) Regulations 2008. The application seeks the inclusion in the Register of Town and Village Greens of the land described in the Schedule below which is claimed to have qualified for registration as a Town or Village Green by virtue of the use of the land for the purposes of lawful sports and pastimes 'as of right' and without challenge by the landowner for a period of over 20 years.

If the Registration Authority is satisfied that the land described below qualifies for registration as a Town or Village Green, it will so register the land.

The application, which includes a plan of the land proposed for registration, may be inspected at the offices of Kent County Council at the address below. Please contact the Commons Registration Team on 01622 221628 to make an appointment prior to visiting to ensure that a member of the team is available to assist you.

Any person wishing to make representations regarding the application should send a written statement of the facts upon which the representation is based to Miss. Melanie McNeir at Kent County Council, either by post at the address below or by email to commons.villagegreens@kent.gov.uk, so as to arrive no later than Monday 10th September 2012. Please quote reference VGA643. Representations must include the name and postal address of the person making them and the nature of their interest (if any) in the land affected by the application. They must also be signed by the person making them and state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that any representations that are to be taken into account by the Registration Authority in reaching a decision on the application cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain during the processing of the application. Copies of any objections or representations received will be forwarded to the applicant for comment and may be disclosed to other interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

Description of the land claimed to have qualified for registration as a Village Green

An area of land of approximately 0.4 acres (0.1 hectares) in size situated to the rear of property numbers 11 and 12 at Four Acres in East Malling.

Commons Registration Team

Countryside Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX **Dated: 29th July 2012**

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact Kent Countryside Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

Kent County Council

To advertise in this section

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TERMS & CONDITIONS

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA LTD
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and Archant KOS Media Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
3. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to Archant KOS Media Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by Archant KOS Media Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies Archant KOS Media Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
6. Archant KOS Media Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
7. Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by Archant KOS Media Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to Archant KOS Media Ltd.
8. Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
9. Archant KOS Media Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
10. A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
11. No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
12. Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with Archant KOS Media Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
13. Archant KOS Media Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
14. Archant KOS Media Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. Archant KOS Media Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vexatious action via the advertiser.
15. Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from Archant KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with Archant KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per Archant KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
17. Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
18. All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a firstcome, first-served basis.
19. The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by Archant KOS Media Ltd within the advertiser's agreement, (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), Archant KOS Media Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use Archant KOS Media Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by Archant KOS Media Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in Archant KOS Media Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
20. Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within Archant KOS Media Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
21. Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of Archant KOS Media Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via Archant KOS Media Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
22. a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to Archant KOS Media Ltd shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
    b. In the event that payment is not received by Archant KOS Media Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
    c. In the event that payment is not received by Archant KOS Media Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
    d. Not withstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of Archant Archant KOS Media Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
    e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by Archant KOS Media Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
    f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
23. Any discount which Archant KOS Media Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
24. Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
25. All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by Archant KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
26. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify Archant KOS Media Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the Archant KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
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HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS - ASHFORD AREA

CHURCH ROAD, WAREHORNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Road, Warehorne, on or after 30 July 2012 for up to 6 weeks.

The road will be closed between the junction with the B2067 and Sycamore House.

The alternative route for through traffic is via B2067 Kenardington Road, Appledore Road, Church Lane, Firs Lane, Hogg Lane and Arrowhead Lane.

Although the road will be closed to through traffic, every effort will be made to maintain as much access as possible for residents within the area affected by the works.

ROSE HILL, WITTERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Rose Hill, Wittersham, on or after 14 August 2012 for up to 3 days, between 8.00 am and 5.00 pm.

The road will be closed in phases for its entire length.

The alternative route is via Stocks Road, Acton Lane and Ebony Road.

WHITE HILL, BOUGHTON ALUPH, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on White Hill, Boughton Aluph, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 3 days, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed in phases for its entire length.

There will be no access for through traffic between the A28 and A251 using this route.

The alternative route is via A251 Faversham Road, Wye Road, and A28 Canterbury Road.

HIGHWAYS - CANTERBURY AREA

COTTON ROAD, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of electricity cabling works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Cotton Road, Canterbury, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 2 nights, between 8.00 pm and 5.00 am.

The road will be closed between The Boundary and the junction with Cow Lane.

The alternative route is via Ten Perch Road, A28 Wincheap and Cow Lane.

HALES DRIVE, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of tree safety works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hales Drive, Canterbury, on or after 14 August 2012 for up to 3 days, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed between the junctions with St Stephen's Road and The Terrace.

The alternative route is via Manwood Avenue and St Stephen's Hill.

POUND LANE & ST RADIGUND'S STREET, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway micro-surfacing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pound Lane & St Radigund's Street, Canterbury, on or after 2 August 2012 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The roads will be closed in phases from outside 16 Pound Lane as far as the junction with Knotts Lane.

The alternative route for through traffic is via The Causeway, St Stephen's Road, B2248 Kingsmead Road, Northgate, (plus eastbound New Ruttington Lane, Union Place and Victoria Row), Borough and St Radigund's Street.

ST LAWRENCE ROAD, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to remove an unsafe tree, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on St Lawrence Road, Canterbury, on or after Sunday 5th August 2012 for up to 1 day, between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm.

The road will be closed to through traffic for its entire length.

The alternative route is via A2050 New Dover Road to the roundabout then Old Dover Road.

SLEIGH ROAD, STURRY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sleigh Road, Sturry, on or after 30 July 2012 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with Island Road, with no through access between Island Road and Cedar Road.

The alternative route is via A28 Island Road, Homewood Road and Cedar Road.

Please note that a further closure may be necessary towards the end of September to make final connections, and will be notified nearer the time, if required.

WALDER CHAIN, BARHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway and kerbing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Walder Chain, Barham, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in phases for its entire length.

The alternative route is via Walder Chain, Agester Lane, A260 Canterbury Road, Eagle Lane, Church Lane, Gravel Castle Road (Rabbit Hole in reverse) and Derringstone Downs.

WINDMILL ROAD, HERNE & BROOMFIELD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway reconstruction works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Windmill Road, Herne & Broomfield, on or after 30 July 2012 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of property numbers 57-63.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Mount View Road and Sondes Close.

The alternative route is via Mill Lane and Pigeon Lane.

HIGHWAYS - DOVER AREA

UPPER STREET, KINGSDOWN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of phone cabling works in the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Upper Street, Kingsdown, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 2 days, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed between the junctions with The Rise and Undercliffe Road.

The alternative route is via Upper Street, The Avenue, Victoria Road, Kingsdown Hill, Oldstairs Road and Undercliffe Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER AUGUST 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on various roads in the Dover area, on or after 13 August 2012, as shown below.

MAXTON ROAD, DOVER - closed from 13 August for up to 3 days

The road will be closed for its entire length

The alternative route is via Mount Road, Manor Rise, Manor Road, Approach Road and B2011 Folkestone Road

MINNIS LANE, RIVER - closed on 22 August for 1 day, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm

The closure is between Lower Road and Lewisham Road

The alternative routes are:

Southbound - Lower Road, Common Lane and Lewisham Road

Northbound - Lewisham Road, Crabble Road, London Road (River), London Road (Temple Ewell), Alkham Road (note 11' 6" (3.5 M) height restriction) and Lower Road.

ALKHAM ROAD, TEMPLE EWELL - closed on 22 August for 1 night between 6.00 pm and 10.00 pm

The closure is Kearsney Station to Lower Road

The alternative route is via London Road (Temple Ewell) and Lower Road

MILL STREET, TEMPLE EWELL - 22 August for 2 days

The closure is between High Street and Templar Road

The alternative route is via High Street, London Road and Templar Road

HIGHWAYS - GRAVESHAM AREA

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, GRAVESHAM) (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT NO 10) ORDER 2012

NOTICE is hereby given that THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under Sections 1, 2, 4 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act of 1984:

The effect of the Order would be to:

1. Introduce No waiting at any time (double yellow line) restrictions on the following roads or lengths of roads in Gravesend, Gravesend Road, Higham (A226), Crutches Lane, Higham and Forge Lane, Higham
2. Introduce no loading at any time restrictions on the following roads or lengths of road in Gravesham: Gravesend Road, Higham (A226)
3. Introduce no waiting between 8am-9.30am or 2.30pm-4pm, Mon-Fri inclusive (single yellow lines) on the following roads or lengths of road in Gravesham:
   Crutches Lane, Higham

Full details are contained in the draft Orders which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders, may be examined between 8.30am and 5pm on Mondays to Fridays at Gravesham Borough Council Offices, Civic Centre, Windmill St, Gravesend, DA12 1AU and at Sessions House, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ.

Any person wishing to support or object to the making of the Order should do so in writing by 12pm on 20th August 2012 to Andy Corcoran KCC Highways and Transportation, Ashford Highway Depot, 4 Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent TN24 8AD, or by email to TRO@kent.gov.uk.

HIGHWAYS - MAIDSTONE AREA

BEARSTED ROAD, BOXLEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of new service connections to The Kent Institute of Medicine and Science, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bearsted Road, Boxley, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic from the roundabout (New Cut Road) to Gidd's Pond Cottages.

The alternative route is via New Cut Road, A20 Ashford Road, Roundwell, The Street, Ware Street.

BOW BRIDGE, WATERINGBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of surfacing repairs, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bow Bridge, Wateringbury, on or after 30 July 2012 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the bridge.

The alternative route is via B2015 Maidstone Road, B2162 Hampstead Lane/Lees Road/High Street, B2010 Yalding Hill, Kenward Road, Bow Hill.

GEORGE LANE, LEEDS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on George Lane, Leeds, on or after 30 July 2012 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions of Lower Street and Burberry Lane.

The alternative route is via Lower Street, Penfold Hill, Burberry Lane.

THURNHAM LANE, THURNHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a new drinking water main, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Thurnham Lane, Thurnham, on or after 3 August 2012 for up to 2 months or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction of Ware Street for approximately 150 metres.

The alternative route is via Pilgrims Way, The Street, Hockers Lane, Ware Street.

VINTERS ROAD, MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to lay ducts for new underground cables, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Vinters Road, Maidstone, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic from Huntsman Lane to the "No Entry" section.

The alternative route is via Albion Place, Andrew Boughton Way, A20 Ashford Road, Huntsman Lane.

WILLOW LANE, YALDING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Willow Lane, Yalding, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Queen Street and Pearsons Green Road.

The alternative route is via Queen Street, Pearsons Green Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in the Schedule.

The alternative routes as described will be noted in the schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure. The Order will become effective on Monday 13th August 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

Schedule

Road Name:	Warwick Place
Extent:	Bower Street to Tonbridge Road
Dates:	Start: 13th August 2012 End: 20th August 2012
Diversion:	Tonbridge Road, Bower Street
Road Name:	Albert Street
Extent:	From Perryfield Street for entire length
Dates:	Start: 20th August 2012 End: 27th August 2012
Diversion:	Perryfield Street, Arundel Street, Perry Street

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS

Road Name: Salisbury Road
Extent: Boxley Road to Park Avenue
Dates: Start: 28th August 2012
End: 4th September 2012
Diversion: Boxley Road, Grecian Street, Park Avenue

Road Name: Wheelers Lane, Linton
Extent: Linton Hill to Barnes Lane
Dates: Start: 3rd September 2012
End: 17th September 2012
Diversion: Westbound: A229 Linton Hill, Redwall Lane, Bonflower Lane Eastbound: Barnes Lane, Laceys Lane, Redwall Lane, A229 Linton Hill

Road Name: Grove Road
Extent: Camp Way to A274 Sutton Road
Dates: Start: 17th September 2012
End: 24th September 2012
Diversion: A274 Sutton Road, Mangravet Avenue, Camp way

Road Name: East Street, Hunton
Extent: Hunton Road to West Street
Dates: Start: 8th October 2012 End: 22nd October 2012
Diversion: Hunton Hill, Upper Hunton Hill, B2163 Heath Road, A229 Linton Hill, B2079 Maidstone Road, Underlyn Lane, Hunton Road

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate carriageway patching works to be undertaken by KCC Highways. For further information or comment please call John Reynolds on 08458 247 800.

County Hall, Maidstone, Kent M14 2XQ

JOHN BURR, Director of Highways, Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS - SEVENOAKS AREA

BOTSOM LANE, WEST KINGSDOWN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Botsom Lane, West Kingsdown, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Knatts Valley Road to A20 London Road.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Knatts Valley Road to A20 London Road.

The alternative route is via: approaching from the north on Knatts Valley Road , the diversion route is south along Knatts Valley Road, then south east along Knatts Lane, North East along School Lane and finally north west along A20 London Road. The route when approaching from the south is the same but reversed.

HARTLEY BOTTOM ROAD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the installation of a new water main, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hartley Bottom Road, on or after 13th August 2012 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with Hartley Hill Road and Idleigh Court Road.

The alternative route is via Hartley Bottom Road, B260 Main Road, Ash Road, North Ash Road.

PIT LANE, EDENBRIDGE, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pit Lane, Edenbridge, Sevenoaks, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Swan Lane to Ridge Way.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions of Swan Lane and Ridge Way.

The alternative route is via: approaching from the East the diversion route is West along Swan Lane, then South along Swan Ridge and East along Ridgeway. The diversion for traffic approaching from the West is the same but reversed. .

HIGHWAYS - SHEPWAY AREA

GIBRALTAR LANE, HAWKINGE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to lay electricity cabling in the highway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Gibraltar Lane, Hawkinge, on or after 30 July 2012 for up to 5 days, or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Elvington Lane and Terlingham Lane.

The alternative route is via Crete Road West and Elvington Lane.

HIGHWAYS - SWALE AREA

CHURCH HILL, HERNHILL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of essential drainage works to prevent flooding, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Hill, Hernhill, on or after 30 July 2012 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Church Hill School Mews.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Kays Lane and Fostall.

The alternative route is via Kays Lane, Kemsdale Road, Fostall and Church Hill.

GREEN LANE, RODMERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Green Lane, Rodmersham, on or after 30 July 2012 for up to 1 month or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed for its entire length.

The alternative route is via Stockers Hill, Highsted Valley, Cheney Hill, Slough Road and Pitstock Hill.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, EASTLING) (SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2012

NOTICE is hereby given that The Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 proposes to make an Order, the purpose of which will be to revoke the order: The Kent County Council (Various Roads, Eastling) (40mph Speed Limit) Order 1991 and introduce speed limits in Various Roads, Eastling on the lengths of road described in the schedules hereto.

No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 30 miles per hour in the lengths of road specified in Schedule 1.

No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 40 miles per hour in the lengths of road specified in Schedule 2.

A copy of the proposed Order, an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of road concerned may be inspected during normal office hours in the offices of the Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent. ME10 3HT and Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX.

If you wish to support or object to the new proposal you should write to the Traffic Schemes and MHF Manager at Kent County Council Highways & Transportation, Unit 4 Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to TRO@kent.gov.uk stating the name of the order and your reasons, by not later than 12 noon on 21 August 2012.

SCHEDULE 1

The Street, Eastling; for its entire length.

Eastling Road, Eastling; from its junction with Newnham Lane, in a north-easterly direction, to a point 18m north-east of the access road to Northcourt.

Newnham Lane, Eastling; from its junction with Eastling Road, in a north-westerly direction, to a point 66m north-west of its junction with Eastling Road.

Kettle Hill Road, Eastling, from its junction with The Street, in a south-easterly direction, to a point 50m south-east of the southern boundary of Eastling County Primary School.

Otterden Road, Eastling, from its junction with Kettle Hill Road, in a south-westerly direction, to a point 18m north-west of the access road to Churchfields.

SCHEDULE 2

Newnham Lane, Eastling; from a point 66m north-west of its junction with Eastling Road, in a north-westerly direction, to a point adjacent the westerly boundary of the property known as Wiltons.

Otterden Road, Eastling; from a point 18m north-west of the access road to Churchfields, in a south-westerly direction, to a point adjacent the boundary between the property known as Stonefield House and the property known as New House Farm.

HIGHWAYS - THANET AREA

WHITEHALL ROAD, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Whitehall Road, Ramsgate, on or after 16 August 2012 for up to 2 evenings, between 6.00 pm and 11.00 pm.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with Newington Road.

The alternative route is via Whitehall Road, St James' Avenue, Kings Avenue and Newington Road.

HIGHWAYS - TUNBRIDGE WELLS AREA

LADHAM ROAD, GOUDHURST (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of kerbing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Ladham Road, Goudhurst, on or after 30 July 2012 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions of Chequers Road and Jarvis Lane.

The alternative route is via Jarvis Lane, Chequers Road.

John Burr
Director Kent Highways
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ

Dated 29th July 2012

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

Licensing Act 2003
Notice of application to vary a premises licence

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I Mr Suleyman Cicek have applied to Hertsmere Borough Council to vary a premises licence in respect of the premises known as Ferhat Supermarket, 130 Shenley Road, Borehamwood, WD6 1EF for:

Supply of alcohol for consumption off the premises:
From 08:00 to 01:00 Monday to Sunday

Any person wishing to make representation in respect of the above activities may do so by writing to Licensing Team, Civic Offices, Elstree Way, Borehamwood, Herts, WD6 1WA by 16 August 2012.

A copy of the application is kept by Licensing Team, Civic Offices, Elstree Way, Borehamwood, Herts, WD6 1WA. The application can be viewed Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm, except bank holidays.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for making a false statement is a Level 5 fine on the standard scale.

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MARRIAGE LICENCES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

Applications have been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as venues for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Folkestone Racecourse, Stone Street, Westenhanger, Hythe**
Applicant: **Emma Santer**

Name of Premises: **Etchinghill Golf, Canterbury Road, Etchinghill**
Applicant: **Deborah Francis**

The applications and plans of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Cath Anley
Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives
Kent History and Library Centre
James Whatman Way
Maidstone, ME14 1LQ

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Newton Faulkner is ready to sing

SEE PAGE 54

NO NEED TO WALK

The Proclaimers to do all the travelling ahead of county gig

SEE PAGE 55

Kent Weekend

Heroes with a dark side

Outlaw books uncover the story of Robin Hood and Richard the Lionheart

SEE PAGE 49

PLUS: Enjoy a tasty bit to eat with your comrades - **food and drink p51**
Flood agreement is about more than just water damage - **property p67**
Alfa feel the love with their marriage made in heaven - **driving p71**

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THE INTERVIEW

Ruthless Richard brought to life

In his latest book Warlord, best-selling author Angus Donald reveals the darker side of legendary English King Richard I as **Nick Ames** discovers

BEST-SELLING historical novelist Angus Donald, from Tunbridge Wells, is now on the fourth volume of his series concerning the exploits of Robin Hood.

Warlord is set in 1194, and sees Richard the Lionheart in Normandy engaged in a bloody war to drive the French out of his continental territory.

Using the brutal tactics of medieval warfare – siege, savagery and scorched earth – the king is gradually pushing back the forces of King Philip of France.

By his side are Robert, Earl of Locksley, better known as the erstwhile outlaw Robin Hood, and Sir Alan Dale, his loyal friend and great warrior.

Donald's Outlaw series has become a fixture in the best-seller lists and gained great reviews.

His Robin is charismatic and a great leader, but a much more complex man than is usually portrayed with a far darker side – not really a 'merry man' in any shape or form.

Fellow historical writer Robert Low called the works: "A ruthless, muscular history of England... a stunning portrayal of the dark side of the Robin Hood legend. This is the outlaw Russell Crowe should have played" while The Times newspaper called the books: "A glorious, gritty, violent fast-moving recreation of an English legend."

Whereas much debate has taken place over whether Robin ever existed there is no doubt about the reality of the latest book's 'co-star'.

King Richard I, whose statue on horseback with raised sword stands outside the Palace of Westminster, is one of England's most famous rulers. And he was very much a "man of his time" said Donald

"I think he was a hero, but he did some pretty terrible things," he said.

"But you have to put them into the context of medieval warfare which was a pretty bloody thing as warfare always is.

"One of the most famous incidents occurs in my second book Holy Warrior where Richard massacres 2,000 Muslim prisoners of war, women, children and old people.

"It occurred at Acre; he was stuck there with all these prisoners, but wanted to march on Jerusalem as part of the Third Crusade, but couldn't – so he killed them.

"There was an agreement to hand over the captives for ransom, a fragment of the 'true cross' (on which Jesus was crucified) plus a huge sum in gold.

"But (Muslim leader) Saladin realized Richard was pinned down while the negotiations were taking place. When the deadline passed Richard realised he was being manipulated.

"You could say Saladin broke his agreement, but it was still horrific. Richard lined up all these people outside the walls of Acre and had their heads chopped off."

When researching true historical figures such as Richard, Donald said he draws on authoritative works by historians as well as what he calls "optical research, a fancy name for going there and looking over the ground".

He said: "You think, these guys would have been charging over that hill, probably avoiding the supermarket.The ground often hasn't changed; you can see a valley, folds in the landscape and the remains of a wood which was once there."

WORD SMITH: Donald's series of books concerning the exploits of Robin Hood have been a big success

A couple of decades ago the character of Richard was attacked by revisionists historians and he was accused of – among other things – being a homosexual. This view was based on his having no children, enjoying male company and not being particularly good to his wife Berengaria of Navarre. He is also believed to have shared a bed with the King of France.

Donald does not agree with this assessment.

"Sharing a bed was common as there were not many to go around," he said.

"I think he was kind of a man's man. He did get married and didn't have any children which is unusual. But he wasn't a home-loving father figure. He was a warrior, a lord and a king and he spent most of his time trying to defend his land. And, I think, he adored fighting.

"As a person I think he would be inspiring, absolutely charismatic with an absolute belief in himself. He was reckless, but that came off so you see it as brave.

"In Warlord, at the Battle of Gisors, he had about 50 knights and was up against the whole French army of 600 to 700 men, including 300 knights and he just charged straight at them.

"And, of course, it worked. He was also very clever when it came to the strategic application of force. At Gisors he shattered the French line and then focused on the king and put him to flight. He was a risk-taker, but it paid off, more often than not.

"A lot of people were in some way entranced by him. He had his weakness; he suffered from chronic shaking hands which could have been a surfeit of adrenalin or even Parkinson's disease, we don't know.

"He also had a softer side, loving poetry and music. He was great patron of the troubadours, such as my character Alan, which is why they get on so well.

"He would have been quite fun to be with – but in that society. You wouldn't want him rampaging through Kent today. He was man of his times and a shining hero."

With historical and historical-based films and TV series currently hugely popular – from Russell Crowe's Robin Hood, to The Lord of the Rings and Game of Thrones – Donald has been in discussion to have his work filmed.

But nothing has come of the talks so far and no-one has bought the rights.

However, Donald thinks he knows who would be the best actor to convincingly put across his version of Robin Hood.

"Johnny Depp would be fantastic," he said. "He has got a good sense of humour and would bring alive the mischievousness of my Robin. But he could do the hard-stone cruelty as well. Plus he has got that charisma, so you could see why people followed him.

"And Richard? Ray Fiennes; he's got that sort of haughty, aristocratic thing. He was great as Voldemort in the Harry Potter series. He'd need a wig though."

■ **Angus Donald will be signing copies of his book at the Tunbridge Wells branch of Waterstones on Saturday, July 28 from 11am until 3pm.**

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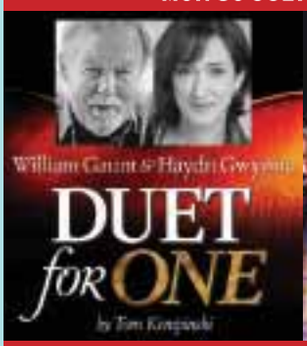

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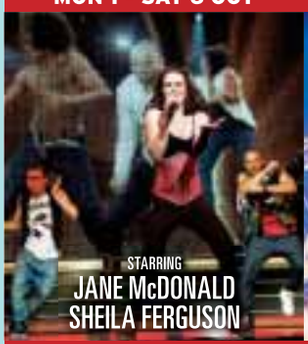

DADDY COOL
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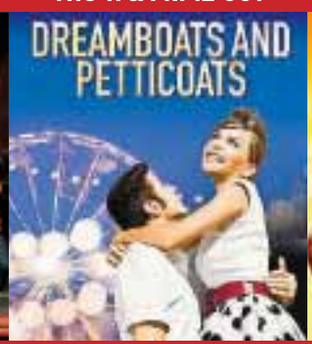

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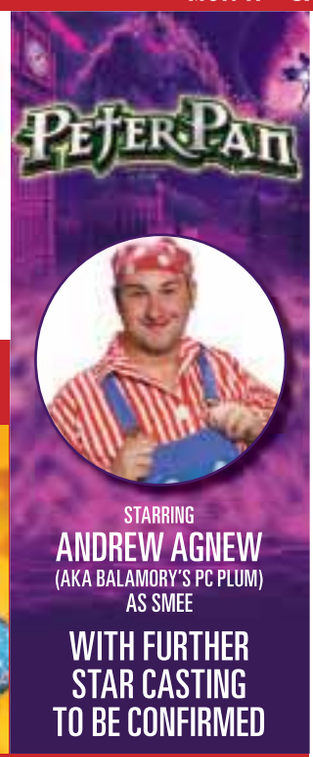

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Communism wins through as Russian eatery draws in diners

RESTAURANT **REVIEW**

FOREIGN food restaurants are not exactly my kind of thing, so this should make the CCCP Restaurant far from up my street.

However, just the name brings intrigue and mystery about it. After all, how many places to eat do you know which are named after a communist state?

This Russian-influenced restaurant has been open for about a year now, and brings in regulars as well as the curious.

Though having a real Russian influence on its menu (and its beer selection), every table has the quite-essential hammer and sickle flags just to add to the novelty.

The menu – which is also published in Russian and Lithuanian – has a good range of dishes and is relatively well priced too.

However, I opted for the special of a soup comprising of five Russian sausages with some gherkin and onion also in the mix. This may not be to the taste of everyone, but I thought it was rather splendid. Presented with a lemon and olive on the top and a slice of French bread on the side, this was a real treat for £4.50.

For those who don't want to delve into Russian classics so early on into a meal, my companion had cream of tomato soup.

Whilst waiting for our starters, and there was

a bit of a wait, we had looked around at the décor which suited its Russian heritage with its tree leg tables and bar. There was also a rather loud Russian television station in the bar area, although the film was more Hollywood than Moscow as The Terminal (albeit with Russian translation) was being shown.

The wait for our main was somewhat shorter however, and two wild boar fillets with saffron sauce, potato wedges and salad garnish awaited me (along with another Russian beer).

This is on the higher end of the price scale at £11.50, but in a Russian restaurant it really is the stand-out option from the menu.

The meal was well presented, with attention to detail high on the agenda. The saffron sauce complemented the boar, although the wedges lacked any real flavour. However, the highlights outweighed the disappointment of the wedges, and I would recommend this unusual dish.

My guest opted for a pork fillet baked with cheese, and although on appearance it looked like a burger, it was tender and well received.

For dessert I again chose a special, honey cake. I have been to this restaurant once or twice before, and on those occasions, I seem to remember this was the special back then too. Never mind – it doesn't set the world on fire but it was an adequate end to a varied and rather tasty meal. My sidekick went for Vineyard – baked grapes with ice cream and fruit sauce, a sweet dish and surprisingly nice.

In a rather modest surrounding, CCCP is an affordable, cultural and a stimulating dining experience with friendly staff. Our total bill came to £50. **Dean Kilpatrick**

CCCP Restaurant,
14-18 Chatham Street, Kent CT11 7PP
www.cccprestaurant.co.uk/home.html
Telephone: 01843 592811

A taste of summer with top strawberry

CANTERBURY soft fruit grower Paul Kelsey of Kelsey Farms brought his award winning and aptly named Jubilee strawberries to the Marks & Spencer store in Whitefriars shopping district for a free tasting session.

Mr Kelsey, whose farm is at Wickhambreaux, concentrates on growing the Jubilee variety of strawberry due to its great taste, shape, colour and texture. He is convinced Jubilee strawberries are the best available on the market today.

For those who love great tasting Kentish strawberries the good news is that they will be in shops until the end of September.

Making the most of quality ingredients

TOP mustard and sauce brand French's have come up with a number of new recipes to incorporate their series of condiments and quality ingredients available in Kent.

Just a few of the new recipes include the local Farmer Palmer steak with French's steakhouse sauce or even the Romney Marsh lamb with the jalapeno and tomato relish.

There are also availble a wide range of sauces for salads. For the honey mustard dressing or the sweet onion relish can be used on Brogdale Farm apples and Faversham's new potatoes.

Visit www.frenchsuk.co.uk for all the new recipes and more information.

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The team at the Bush Blackbird only use British meats in their dishes, which are locally sourced whenever possible.

Impressively, the kitchen staff even grow their own vegetables, taking them fresh from the patch and on to the plate. Their huge garden for families to enjoy is a big draw for the summer months for a nice, relaxing beverage or a good meal after a long walk through the countryside.

There is plenty of parking, as well as disabled facilities and the establishment allows dogs on the premises.

The team have catered for car rallies and large events, so get in touch if there is a celebration coming up and you are looking for a venue. There is a quiz night every Tuesday and there are live bands and music evey month at this East Peckham venue.

■ **Bush Blackbird and Thrush**
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Main: Catch of the day served with fresh vegetables and potatoes or chips.
Dessert: Eaton Mess with fresh Kentish strawberries
WAGGON AT HALE: 01634 400800
www.waggonathale.com
Starter: Mushrooms cooked in a Pinot Grigio, cream and thyme sauce served on a bed of ciabatta.
Main: Spaghetti carbonara. Fresh spaghetti tossed with bacon, sautéed mushrooms and a white wine and cheese sauce.
Dessert: Homemade bannoffee pots.
BLOOMERS: 01474 322131 www.overcliffehotel.com
Starter: Warm goats cheese with roasted red onion, rocket and parmesan salad.
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Dessert: Strawberries and cream with a chilled glass of champagne.
ORIENTAL BUFFET: 01732 361666
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Starter: Crispy duck with cucumber and spring onion.
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Dessert: Daily changing homemade cakes.

COLOUR: Jalsha Tandoori offers Indian food and great entertainment

Music and great food keep Jalsha cooking

THE Jalsha Tandoori in Sidcup has something great to offer every customer.

Having been in the business since 1984, the trusted team bring a great atmosphere, experience and superb food to the table.

The open, spacious restaurant offers different flavours and spices wwith a continental Indian menu as well as top live entertainment.

The family orientated restaurant is hosting a number of events throughout 2012, including some summer live music in the form of Bootleg Blondie on August 7, who sing tributes to the 80s legends Debbie Harry and Chris Stein that include the full array of Blondie hits.

On the same bill is the 70s and 80s Hits Show, featuring songs from Madness, The Jam, Soft Cell, Nena, The Undertones, The Bangles, Madonna, The Specials and many more.

There will continue to be more tribute acts on the first Tuesday of every month, and with a large car park at the back of the restaurant you'll have no worry about where to leave your car.

The team pride themselves on top quality hygiene and with good reviews, word of mouth and satisfied customers, the Jalsha Tandoori has gone from strength to strength.

The restaurant is open every lunchtime from noon until 2.30pm and every evening from 5.30-11pm. They are also open all day on Sundays.

Jalsha currently offers a special lunch menu for £9.95 which includes a poppadom, starter, main course, vegetable, rice or bread and is finished off with coffee or ice cream.

Having acrued more than 20 years' experience in the business, the Jalsha team can also cater for special occasions, so if you have any parties coming up contact Jalsha Tandoori to see what they can do for your special event.

■ **Jalsha Tandoori**
169-171 Station Road
Sidcup, Kent, DA15 7AA
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A dream night out with a touch of class

BLOOMERS Restaurant at The Overcliffe Hotel is a rare gem that should not be missed.

Established in 1980, it is one of the best-kept secrets in Kent, offering excellent food and an ambience second to none.

The bar, restaurant and conservatory are all candlelit at night, giving the place a dreamlike quality – ideal for that special meal with the most important person in your life.

On most Saturdays the resident pianist will serenade diners on the grand piano, performing an excellent selection of music to suit every mood.

This relaxing experience can be added to as diners sit back with a perfectly-chilled glass of Champagne or an expertly-mixed cocktail in the bright conservatory.

You can also choose from the first-class menu and extensive wine list. Drinks can

even be served alfresco in the garden as the summer finally rolls up.

In previous years those who have enjoyed the atmosphere include former Prime Minister Tony Blair, comedians such as Bernard Manning and Freddie Starr and entertainers Gerry and the Pacemakers, Rick Wakeman and Max Boyce.

There is even a celebrity corner where guests and diners can check out who has gone before them.

The restaurant, which has appeared on BBC television, is open to non-residents for dinner each evening, but to make the experience complete why not book a room and stay over?

The hotel is ideally situated for the town centre, the local railway station and Ebbsfleet International Station.

■ **Bloomers Restaurant,**
The Overcliffe Hotel, 15-16 Overcliffe,
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www.overcliffehotel.co.uk

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THE open air Luna Cinema will be touring Kent this month showing some classic films under the warm summer skies.

Friends and family can picnic and enjoy a movie under the stars in some of the county's stunning locations, including St Augustine's Abbey in Canterbury, Leeds Castle in Maidstone, and Margate beach front.

The classic movies Casablanca, Grease, Dirty Dancing, The Goonies and Pirates of the Caribbean are just some of the films chosen to be shown.

The list of the venues, dates and films include Cassablanca at St Augustine's Abbey, on July 28, Dirty Dancing at Rochester Castle on August 3, Grease at Hall Place, Bexley on August 8, The Rocky Horror Picture Show at Leeds Castle on August 10. Please visit www.thelunacinema.com for the full lisitings.

A career built by Faulkner
Newton's law

Winter Gardens, Margate
Wednesday, October 24
Tickets on sale now, £17.50
margatewintergardens.co.uk

BRIT Award nominated, acoustic guitar virtuoso Newton Faulkner has announced a gig at Margate Winter Gardens.

Having just released his single Clouds taken from his third album Write It On Your Skin, Faulkner has become one of the most successful British solo artists of the moment. It's been three years since 2009's Rebuilt By Humans and in that time he's toured the world and helped to usher in a new generation of singer-songwriters including Ed Sheeran and Ben Howard. Newton has sold more than a million albums in the UK. His debut Hands Built By Robots spent 10 months in the Top 40, one of the Top 20 Biggest Selling UK digital albums ever.

Wild time for rock fest
Getting ready for Hevy

Port Lympne Wild Animal Park
Friday to Sunday, August 3-5
Tickets £96
www.hevy.co.uk/2012

THERE will be more than just the lions roaring at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park in August as crowds flood in to see some of the top rock and punk bands around.

American 90s-punk group The Descendents will be headlining alongside the wildman Andrew W. K. and UK garage punkers Hundred Reasons. Returning for a fourth year, Hevy is back and unleashing more than 80 bands across three stages, with a ferocious line-up covering all corners of hardcore, punk, metal and rock.

Just some of the other top bands performing at the event include Glassjaw, Converge, Will Haven and Madball. For the full line-up see the website listed above.

A-MAIZE-ING
Pick this place for a puzzle

Penshurst Place, near Tonbridge
July to September
www.penshurstplace.com

FOR the first time, Penshurst Place will this year have a maze attraction for visitors to enjoy during the school summer holidays.

But get this – the maze is made out of, well, maize. And it's sure to provide hours of eco-fun for the family.

The new attraction has been designed by Mazescape and will be open at Penshurst until mid September, depending on the weather conditions.

The maze will be free to visit for full-paying garden-ticket-holders and Penshurst Place season-ticket-holders.

For voucher and other card-holders there will be a small extra charge of £2 per adult, £1 per child, per visit to take on the winding, life-size puzzle.

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www.gravesham.gov.uk

DIRECT from London's West End, comes a show visitors won't forget in a hurry.

Showcasing award-winning talent from across the country, this is an opportunity to see some of the world's biggest burlesque stars in the flesh.

Theatregoers are promised corsets, killer heels and stockings aplenty.

"An Evening of Burlesque features an all-star cast of beautiful and elegant performers," said show producer Michael Taylor. "Sparkling with couture costumes recalling the golden eras, it's the most glamorous show on tour. It's all tease, no sleaze."

Bringing variety back to the theatre, the show combines music, magic, comedy with the art of striptease.

A jewel in the crown
Royal Rocks on show

Royal Victoria Place Shopping,
Tunbridge Wells
July 28 - August 12
Admission is free

A GLITTERING exhibition of the world's most famous jewels will be on display this summer in Royal Tunbridge Wells to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and London 2012.

The Royal Rocks Exhibition will take place at the Royal Victoria Place shopping centre, showcasing replicas of the historic Crown Jewels of Great Britain. This spectacular exhibition will provide an educational and interesting day out for all the family, and it's free.

It will include 12 of the most famous pieces, including the St Edward's Crown, made for the coronation of King Charles II in 1661 and worn by every British monarch since at each of their coronation services.

Hi-de-hi spirit returns to summer holidays
Visiting Kent Life

Kent Life, near Maidstone
Summer camp style available until September 3
Phone 01622 763936.
www.kentlife.org.uk

THE county's heritage adventure park Kent Life, near Maidstone, is rolling back the years this summer to the golden era of the 1950s holiday camp.

Until September, the attraction is adding a host of activities to an already fun-packed programme of things to do, transporting visitors back to an age when holiday camps were the highlight of every British summer.

Staff will be getting into the retro spirit in true Hi-de-hi style by wearing special holiday camp uniforms and encouraging everyone to join in with the new daily Kent Life Jingle. There will be a play beach, grand tug-of-war competitions and sports day races for visitors to take part in, along with a bouncy castle and water zorbing.

Heritage and family fun sit side by side at Kent Life, with something to entertain all ages and generations. Kids can go wild in the outdoor adventure play area or soft indoor play barn, as well as enjoy donkey rides, a pottery studio, junior electric quad bikes, tractor rides, dressing up, stilt walking and more. Set in 28 acres of countryside, there is also a working farm, with plenty of animals to see including pigs, sheep, ducks, goats and alpacas. Young visitors can even snuggle up to the smaller farmyard friends.

Close enough to walk to
Proclaimers

The Marlowe, Canterbury
Friday, November 2, 7.30pm
01227 787787
www.marlowetheatre.com

MANY acts born north of the border often try to deny their celtic tones instead opting for a transatlantic twang masking their Scottish roots, but not The Proclaimers.

Originating in Fife, Charlie and Craig Reid sing with their hearts very much on their sleeves, making them one of the most recoginsable pop groups in the world.

It's now 26 years since The Proclaimers released their first album This Is The Story, but the new wave, rock-pop duo have remained a firm favourite with many from both the UK and America.

The striking twins have enjoyed huge successes across the globe with memorable hits such as Sunshine on Leith, Letter From America, I'm on My Way, Life With You and Lets Get Married. Not to mention of course the infamous 500 Miles which has been recreated and adopted by comedians and football teams globally.

The pair will perform at The Marlowe to coincide with the release of their new album Like Comedy.

CROSSKEYS
Life's a journey. Take your seat.

Day Trips

August		Adult	Child
Wed 1	Clacton-on-Sea	22.00	14.00
Mon 6	Afternoon Cite Europe	16.00	12.50
Wed 8	River Cruise & Maidstone	15.50	11.00
Thurs 9	Boulogne via Ferry	26.50	19.00
Fri 10	Disneyland Paris via Ferry	74.00	69.00
Sun 12	Eastbourne International Airshow	16.50	11.00
Sun 12	Great Comp Garden Show	22.00	16.00
Mon 13	Arras via Ferry	31.50	25.00
Mon 20	Sheffield Park & Bluebell Railway	34.00	31.00
Tues 21	Le Touquet via Ferry	28.00	21.00
Thurs 23	Thorpe Park	43.00	31.00
Sat 25	De Panne	22.50	19.00
Sun 26	Bruges or Sluis	35.50	29.00
Tues 28	Guildford & River Wey	24.00	19.00
Thurs 30	Boulogne via Ferry	26.50	19.00
September			
Mon 3	Afternoon Cite Europe	16.00	12.50
Fri 7	Wisley Flower Show	29.50	26.00
Tues 11	The Essex Highlands	39.00	35.00
Thurs 13	Camden Lock & River Cruise	27.00	19.00
Sat 15	De Panne	22.50	19.00
Sun 16	London Eye, Carvery Lunch & River Cruise	66.00	59.00
Wed 19	Buckingham Palace including Royal Mews	48.00	42.00
Thurs 20	Boulogne	26.50	19.00

Short Breaks

Sat 4 Aug	1 night HB	Alton Towers	£125
Fri 17 Aug	1 night B&B	Brussels Carpet of Flowers	£128
Fri 7 Sept	3 nights HB	Floriade 2012	£269
Fri 28 Sept	3 nights HB	Charms of Chester	£248
Mon 8 Oct	4 nights HB	The New Forest & Titanic Experience	£335
Mon 26 Nov	4 nights HB	Bournemouth Turkey & Tinsel	£266

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An all rounder
Toksvig is a showbiz pro

Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells
Wednesday, September 5
01892 530 613

COMEDIAN, novelist, actor and broadcaster Sandi Toksvig has announced a show in Tunbridge Wells.

Embarking on her first major UK solo tour in years, Toksvig is celebrating publication of her new novel Valentine Grey.

The long-standing host of Radio Four's News Quiz and Excess Baggage, will be touring with a new evening of stand-up, stories and fascinating facts.

A regular panelist on intellectual quiz show QI and a keen historian, Toksvig will also be signing copies of Valentine Grey after the show for any fans that bring one along.

Tickets are priced at £18.50, see www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk for more information.

Seeing the art of movement
Digital pieces

Blake Gallery, Gravesend
July 28 - 29
01474 33 77 74
www.artofmovement.co.uk/

A new installation will be exhibited at the Blake Gallery in Gravesend this month.

The Art of Movement project exploring sound, movement and art was created and developed by digital and acoustic artist Peter Cook, movement artist Michelle Boakes and visual artist Wendy Daws in collaboration with students from Ifield School and elderly residents from Edward Moore House. The project will focus on the body and its physicality, recognising that every body is different.

Digital artist Peter Cook said: "Curiosity demands a question of us and helps us to find out more. Experience allows a flow of ideas and memories to form. Uncertainty helps support rethinking and refining of ideas. I think it helps with openness and understanding."

Funk soul brother
D Train live at festival

Margate Soul Weekend
Friday, August 3 - Sunday, August 5
Call 01843 221704
www.margatesoulweekend.co.uk

THE fifth annual Margate Carnival Soul Weekend is fast approaching and some big names have already signed up to appear.

The event will showcase the seaside destination's artistic old town quarter with performances from American disco star James "D TRAIN" Williams (pictured) who had a hit with You're the One for Me as well as Bert Bacharach's Walk on By. Elsewhere soul legend Gwen McCrae, former wife and duet partner of George McCrae, will perform hits including Lead Me On, Rockin' Chair and All this Love that I'm Giving. In addition to the fantastic spectacle of the Carnival Parade on the Sunday at 3pm.

The one that you'll want
Grease return

Orchard Theatre, Dartford
August 27 - September 1
01322 220000
www.orchardtheatre.co.uk

ONE of the greatest musicals ever, Grease, is back at the Orchard Theatre this summer. The show stars Danny Bayne, winner of ITV's Grease Is The Word, as John Travolta's legendary character Danny Zuko with Carina Gillespie taking the role of the Olivia Newton-John's character Sandy. Strictly Come Dancing legend and Celebrity Fat Club contestant Russell Grant will play Teen Angel.

Dust off your leather jackets, pull on your bobby-socks and take a trip to a simpler time as bad boy Danny and girl next door Sandy fall in love all over again.The original high-school musical, features the unforgettable songs from the hit movie including You're The One That I Want and Greased Lightnin' .

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Homes & Gardens

Building you a great lifestyle

RECENT trends in property construction have seen some developers, like Berkeley Homes, place a greater emphasis on enhancing the onsite infrastructure and increasing the lifestyle facilities available to residents across their developments.

In a competitive housing market, house buyers are looking for more than just a home, and instead are favouring sites that are well equipped with a range of amenities, and which have the facilities to establish a thriving community too.

Company director Tina Dedman said : "As a developer we are committed to building homes and communities for the future. Consequently, where possible, we are investing in the necessary infrastructure and incorporating facilities that will not only enhance the residents' quality of life, but help to cultivate a strong sense of community too.

"Our development, Holborough Lakes near Snodland, is a prime example of this in practice. When creating the site, we had access to 47 acres of developable land and saw a prime opportunity to implement the foundations for building and creating a sustainable community, and as such we are able to offer residents access to a village hall, a village green with trim trail, residents only gym, onsite crèche, estate manager, and even an eight acre clear water lake which is home to a leading diving and water sports academy.

"Our properties are priced competitively with a view to attracting growing and established families and, as such, we have endeavoured to ensure we have the necessary infrastructure in place to accommodate their lifestyle demands. We chose to make provision for an onsite nursery, which is intended to be both convenient for parents, and to help the children integrate and form friendships with other children from the development."

As well as gyms, crèches and village halls, developers are also looking to maximise the pre-established facilities in their developments' vicinities, and in the case of Holborough Lakes, this includes an onsite diving and water sports academy.

Ms Dedman added: "We're lucky enough to have an eight acre freshwater lake complete with established dive centre at Holborough, and have worked with the centre to encourage residents to take part in the activities available so close to home. "

Holborough Lakes development consists of a collection of two, three, four and five bedroom houses and one and two bedroom apartments. Prices start at £169,950.

Homes & Gardens

Heads will roll if you want

LUCY'S PATCH

by LUCY HEWETT

HOLIDAY time is here... we've spent all year getting our gardens just right so we can go away when everything looks its best.

I think this every year when I am planting all my veggies – these will be ready when we are away but at least the dog sitters get to enjoy them. If you are going away do try and get someone in to water and pick your, veg it will be a shame if it has all gone to seed before you have a chance to enjoy at least some of your crop.

Talking of crop there, seems to be rather a lack of cherries this year; I can't believe we don't even have one cherry left on our 25 trees in the orchard as the starlings ate them all before they were ripe – I didn't get to taste even one.

They are rather large trees which were here when we moved in 15 years ago, not like the smaller root stock they plant these days which are much easier for picking and pruning so we don't even attempt to net ours, my only bird scarer is my daughter running around the orchard banging a tin tray.

Other things in my garden I do have slightly more control over; but even so every year I am still amazed at just how out of control some plants get, perhaps taking up more room than anticipated, crowding out other plants.

One thing writing this article has done is made me take photographs of my garden at different stages of year and this I would recommend doing to note any gaps or congestion that you'll want to rectify later in the season when everything has gone over, ahead of next year.

Normally at this time I would be emphasising the watering but I don't think I will have to worry this year as everything is as green and lush as it was in May.

Jobs to do

As flowers go over deadhead regularly to encourage longer flowering into autumn and generally to prevent the garden looking too messy.

Leave rose heads if you want them to form autumn hips. Pick leaves off plants affected by rose black spot and rust and don't put these in your compost bin. A rose I would highly recommend is Rosa Compassion, the hybrid tea flowers open from high-pointed buds to a ruffled mix of pale pink, apricot and orange, plant it near a walkway to make the most of its glorious scent.

After you have cut some lavender for drying trim the bushes immediately after flowering to maintain shape but not into old wood.

Summer prune wisteria, shortening side shoots back to five or six leaves.

Collect seed from plants you're planning to reseed and those you don't want to reseed themselves. Hollyhocks and daisies self-seed madly in my garden but I am quite happy about that.

If you've not already done so, buy bulbs for autumn planting including tulips, narcissus, alliums, iris and crocus. Also while you are at it order spring flowering bulbs. Plant nerines.

Trim conifer, privet, laurel and other ever-

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to maintain floral beauties

green hedges.

Prep soil for laying turf or sowing seed during September and October.

Don't cut off flower heads of ornamental grasses as these will provide winter interest.

Support your dahlias, lilies and gladioli with stakes and flower hoops to ensure the weight of their lovely flowers doesn't cause their stems to break. A dahlia I would highly recommend is Chat Noir – a real prolific, long-life vase beauty with burgundy petals and lime green centre and I have never had to lift it in winter.

In the fruit and vegetable patch

Pick off lower leaves from tomatoes to allow light and air to reach the fruits. Feed with liquid high potash fertiliser.

Sow parsley and winter lettuce to allow time to establish in time for a winter supply.

Order garlic and onions for winter planting.

Lift and pot up rooted strawberry runners.

Pick herbs for drying.

Plant out leeks and brassicas, if you haven't already you can also squeeze in a final sowing of spinach and chard.

Also sow basil, marjoram, borage, chervil, chives, coriander, dill, and parsley in pots outside to make moving them indoors as easy as possible in the late autumn.

Harvesting: cucumbers – I have always found Burpless Tasty to be an excellent variety, known for being easy on the digestive system, you can grow them outdoors but I grow mine inside and they are, if anything, a little too prolific. If you do get overrun with them try making sweet cucumber pickle, I use the recipe from Sarah Raven's Garden Cookbook – I have even converted my cucumber-hating friend with it.

Whatever you do this summer if you are going away or spending some time in your garden at home enjoy it. We will hopefully get an Indian summer as the weather so far has been – although I don't like to grumble of course – rather disappointing. We're off to the French Alps where I will hopefully get to see and take lots of pictures of the beautiful mountain flowers there and, fingers crossed, not see too much rain.

BEAUTIES: Deadheading prolongs flowering; Verbena bonariensis; se;f-seeding hollyhocks

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Look out for wildlife

IN what is becoming the worst year on record for butterflies, Sir David Attenborough has urged people to join the biggest count of the winged insects in the world.

The wettest April for a century and the dampest June on record has left lepidopterists despairing about the fate of Britain's 59 species, almost three quarters of which are in decline and one third in danger of extinction.

Launching the third Butterfly Conservation Big Butterfly Count, which ends next weekend, the biggest citizen science project of its kind in the world, Sir David said it was more important than ever to discover if butterflies are dodging the downpour.

The count, in which people are asked to record online all the common species they spot in a 15-minute window in their garden, will alert conservationists to the species most in danger so efforts can be better targeted to prevent their extinction.

Results should be posted to www.bigbutterflycount.org.

"The fact every single person can produce a statistic of real value is a great spur," said Sir David. "But let's not underestimate the spin-offs. Many people will for the first time start taking a careful and critical view of their surroundings. The butterfly count helps butterflies but it also helps natural history and eco-sensitivity in this country."

Conservationists fear this extreme weather will trigger local extinctions of rare species such as the heath fritillary, which only flies at 40 sites in Britain, some of the most important of which are in Kent.

But there are also concerns over common species and Butterfly Conservation hopes the count will reveal how the small tortoiseshell is faring after counts revealed a dramatic population slump for this once-common garden butterfly.

This summer may be the worst year for butterflies since records began in 1976. If butterfly sightings are lower than the sodden summer of 2007 it would suggest there are fewer butterflies than ever in the British Isles, as numbers have been in steady decline since the 1970s.

"Enthusiasts and scientists on the ground are rightly very concerned," said Richard Fox of Butterfly Conservation. "There's a real fear of it being an extremely bad year. Sun-loving butterflies are having to cope with some of the wettest, coldest and dullest spring and summer weather ever."

Prolonged wet weather prevents caterpillars from thriving and stops adults finding mates and laying eggs for next year's generation. Most butterflies need warm temperatures and sunshine to for energy to fly.

Conservationists are also asking people to look out for birds.

Summer bird feeding can be just as important as feeding the birds during the winter months, as it's a busy time of year for rearing chicks.

During the breeding season, more birds are competing for the natural foods available and with the loss of natural habitats over the years this can mean food supplies become scarce. Supplementary feeding can be a huge benefit but it is important to consider which foods are right at this time of year.

Wildlife Advisor, Martin George from CJ Wildlife offered this advice "Live mealworms contain lots of protein and are perfect for both adult and young birds during the summer. If you have limited space then choose a food mix that is rich in sunflower hearts and will appeal to the greatest number of species, such as our Hi-Energy No Mess. Be aware that some foods can be potential choking hazards for juveniles so foods such as whole peanuts should never be fed from a bird table – always use a specialist mesh feeder."

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With ClosetMaid shelving systems homeowners can make the most of their space in a few easy steps and finally be able to find the outfit that always seems to be stuffed away in the corner.

At OrganiseMyHome.com customers will find pre-designed packages in a number of sizes to offer a range of solutions to create storage space for everything – from dresses to shoes and everything in between.

However, if space is not quite standard with sloping ceilings or other obstacles to consider, or perhaps you simply have a specific design in mind, householders can get in touch with the dimensions of their space and make the most of ClosetMaid's free custom design service.

A company spokesman said: "Our team will create a design for you and get back to you with drawings and a quotation to consider.

"From there you can place your order and have your new closet delivered to fit yourself with easy to follow, customised DIY instructions. Or you can ask about our professional installation service.

"The ClosetMaid system is very flexible.

"It will fix into existing enclosures, or you can mount it onto a wall and leave the system open, creating a feature out of storage, or place your own doors across the shelving to hide items away.

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HOMES

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Optimise your storage space with real style

CHANGING the wardrobe in your bedroom can quickly add a new look to the room and give it a fresh feel for the summer months.

Providing the perfect backdrop for effortlessly cool bedrooms this summer, Ascent from Sharps is a range that's sure to add a real touch of glamour to your home.

Combining white and ivory gloss doors, the effect created is quite unique.

Each door is composed of three panels, alternating in colour between ivory and white. The ribbon-like panelling adds a dramatic touch to the room and, making the most of this enduringly stylish neutral palette, the pattern of the doors really catches the eye and adds interest to the room.

Sharps also has a solution for a child's bedroom. At every stage, little people need space that incorporates clever solutions to ensure all of their toys, clothes and books are stored neatly – leaving them with plenty of space to play in or just chill out.

The company has developed the new Flexispace – a range of flexible internal storage solutions designed around your child and adaptable as they grow.

Prices for a fully fitted Sharps bedroom start from £1,800, including design, manufacture, delivery and installation.

Mortgage risks if flood agreement ends

A QUARTER of the properties in the UK at risk of flooding could be left uninsured, leaving lenders exposed to a potential £214 billion of blighted property, says new research.

According to a report from property data experts xit2, lenders could be left at risk as mortgage borrowers find themselves unable to secure insurance against flooding when the "Statement of Principles" agreed between the Government and the insurance industry expires in June next year.

The statement was drawn up to protect homeowners by offering insurance deals in the wake of flooding, which was exceptionally severe in Yalding and other mid-Kent villages.

But its ending could mean property owners are unable to insure their properties as insurers become unwilling to offer policies which expire after the principles agreement.

The problem has been made more acute because of the recent heavy rainfall.

The end of the insurance cover leaves lenders' mortgage books exposed to property at risk of floods where there is already a mortgage in place.

COSTLY: If the insurance agreement is allowed to end then homes at risk of flooding could become uninsurable

"No insurance equals no mortgage," said Mark Blackwell, managing director of xit2. "This means the only people who'll be able to buy property at risk of flooding will be cash buyers – prices will plummet. It is vital lenders are able to identify properties at risk before they value it and grant a mortgage. Failure to do so exposes them to potentially blighted property and will increase the risk in their mortgage book.

"As the value of uninsured property falls, owners will be left in negative equity. It's a real booby trap for buyers, surveyors and lenders."

Uninsured properties could leave owners in breach of their mortgage contract. The end of the agreement also leaves surveyors exposed to a rise in overvaluation claims, where lenders feel the surveyor has been negligent and not taken flood risk into account when valuing the property on their behalf.

The Association of British Insurers estimates the 2007 floods cost more than £3bn and the average bill to repair a flooded property is more than £30,000. Around £300m is spent on flood defences across the UK every year but 43 per cent of defences are in fair, poor or very poor condition.

Particular "at risk" areas in Kent include Sheppey and the North Kent Marshes, Romney Marsh, the Medway around Maidstone, Deal and Sandwich and parts of the Stour Valley.

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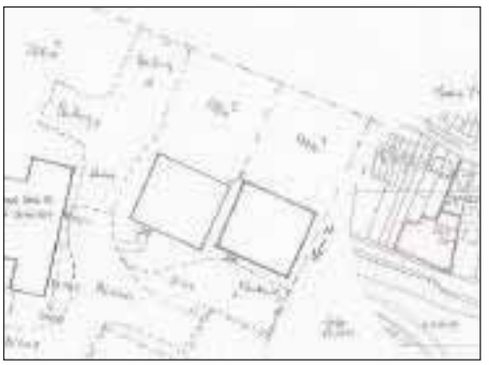

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Skoda back on the move with all-new Rapid ready to hit roads

Driving

carsforkent.co.uk

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

MATCHMAKING doesn't come better than this – marrying Alfa Romeo's delightful MiTo sports hatch with sister brand Fiat's feisty TwinAir petrol engine.

The award-winning turbocharged 85bhp 875cc twin-cylinder engine, launched in the Fiat 500, seems a natural match for the versatile MiTo – a name coined rather fittingly from abbreviating Italy's fashion capital Milano and motor city Torino.

And while the TwinAir engine broadened the masculine appeal of the 500, there will be male buyers only too delighted that it is now available in the chunkier and more spacious MiTo, causing Alfa to predict this new version will account for around 40 per cent of sales from that range.

And they won't only be buying the MiTo TwinAir for its nimbleness and lively performance – 0-62mph in 12.5 seconds – but also low benefit in kind taxation (10 per cent), the exemption from the London congestion charge and road tax that comes from just 98g/km of CO2 emissions, and an official 67mpg on the combined cycle. That compares with key figures of 0-62mph of 13 seconds, £100/year road tax (zero in year one) and 50.4mpg combined for the existing 1.4-litre MiTo entry model.

Mind you, the enjoyment of revving and driving the responsive and throatier TwinAir version is likely to eat seriously into that economy figure and reduce the benefit over the 1.4 normally aspirated version. Note also that TwinAir prices start at £14,150 against the 1.4's start price of £12,500.

On the other hand, the TwinAir may be the best partner yet for Alfa Romeo's excellent DNA system, which allows the steering and throttle response to be switched between D (Dynamic), N (Normal) and A (All-Weather).

The MiTo TwinAir is available in two trim levels – Sprint and Distinctive – priced at £14,150 and £15,350 respectively.

Standard kit at Sprint level includes sporty 16-inch alloys, cruise control, front fog lights, climate control, and Alfa's Blue&Me audio/comms system with Bluetooth hands-free connectivity and USB jack.

Trading up to Distinctive adds 17-inch alloys, red-painted Brembo brake calipers, rear parking sensors and chrome/aluminium detailing.

The Italian marque has also boosted its normal three-year unlimited mileage warranty to five across both current models – the MiTo and Focus-Class Giulietta – available until September 30, 2012.

What buyers also get is the most distinctively styled supermini in the sector; a three-door hatchback coupé that is practical and fun to drive; and a real antidote to the increasingly bland driving experience – and all at a keen price.

There is also no doubt that, as a model, the MiTo has heralded an upsurge in popularity for the Alfa Romeo brand.

ALFA ROMEO MITO

Price: £14,150
Driving appeal: ★★★★★
Image: ★★★★★
Space: ★★★
Value: ★★★★
Running costs: ★★★★
Reliabilty: ★★★★
How green?: ★★★★★
Best rival: Mini

Have Alfa created a marriage made in motoring heaven?

ATTRACTIVE OFFER: Alfa has boosted its normal three-year unlimited mileage warranty to five across both current models – the MiTo and Focus-Class Giulietta

DON'T LIKE

...the price. On the face of it, you don't get much for an extra £1,650 over and above the entry model MiTo, but it's tax efficient and great fun.

NOT SURE

...Alfa Romeo is yet in the 'tried and trusted' category with UK buyers, but the cars do make you feel that any driving is a thing worth doing.

REALLY LIKE

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MOTORING

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Chevy fun bus survives trials and tribulations of Cornish test

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

RATHER than asking how do you like your Cornish pasties, it can be a case of how does your car?

The West Country staple can be disastrous for the motor, with an outer casing able to explode with every bite, leaving greasy shrapnel everywhere.

Why not eat it outside the car? What, with the famous Cornish 'mizzle' enveloping you and the risk of gull attack? You must be joking.

But a pasty bomburst was just one of the trials our Chevrolet Orlando test car coped with during a week in the Duchy, crammed with four adults and two kids plus attendant wet and dry weather gear – ease of access to the two rearmost seats was a big plus.

I hadn't chosen the seven-seat Chevy by accident either; it impressed on a previous drive when I dubbed it the 'fun bus', not just for being named after the world's theme park capital – Orlando in Florida.

Spectacular value (from £16,825), a decent ride, space and comfort all recommended it, even if its Transatlantic lines didn't fit quaint Cornish backdrops, and there was little Florida-style sunshine to reflect off the gold Chevy grille badge.

But I like the muscular styling that makes it stand apart from more effete rivals.

And while it is a tad nose heavy and suffers from some of the body lean on corners that afflicts most MPVs, it is more likely to attract male buyers who normally have to be strong-armed into buying a people carrier 'for the sake of the family'.

It's hardly surprising how well it performs on the road, as it shares the same platform as Chevy's sharply styled middleweight saloon, the Cruze, and the impressive Astra hatchback from General Motors' (GM) stablemate Vauxhall.

Bosses at the latter brand won't be too happy though to have such a competent and keenly-priced rival to the big-selling Zafira seven-seater and recently-launched Zafira Tourer, in what is a crowded sector anyway.

Adding insult to injury, the versatility of the Orlando's seven seats is reminiscent of the Zafira sisters; conversion from full seven-up mode to flat floor cavernous van and all other permutations takes just seconds.

Cabin quality is also impressive, underlining strides the brand has made since Chevy parent GM acquired the failed Korean Daewoo motor operation a few years ago, but inherited some poor interior finishing.

But while visual and tactile quality can be sorted fast, design and ergonomics takes practice and the Korean-built Orlando could use more localised stowage, even if the boot is huge when the two rearmost seats are folded.

Mounting the front 12v power socket close to the handbrake and gearshift is one irritation, particularly if you have a game console or DVD player connected for a long journey.

On the other hand the concealed flip-up housing and socket for the iPod/iPhone on the dashboard is a stroke of genius.

On the power front, the 1.8LS petrol entry model will catch the eye with its start price plus usual Chevy five-year warranty, and get you talking to the dealer, but around £1,200 gets you into 2.0-litre diesel offering far better acceleration, fuel economy and resale value.

The diesel is available in 130PS (129bhp) or 163PS (162bhp) but there is a fag paper between them in terms of performance and economy.

Admittedly, the test car in flagship LTZ trim had the higher-powered unit (from £22,715) and coped well with the extra holiday loading and demanding Cornish terrain, but previous driving of the 130 version of the fun bus suggests this won't sell you short by much, while saving cash upfront.

TICKING ALL THE RIGHT BOXES: Sure to make a big impact on an already busy MPV sector, the Orlando performs well and is perfect for those with a large family

CHEVROLET ORLANDO 2.0 163 VCDi LTZ : PRICE £22,715

Driving appeal:	★★★★
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Reliabilty:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£170/year
Best rival:	Citroën G4 Grand Picasso

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First GEAR
MOTORING NEWS

Body choice for new Leon

SPORTING Spanish brand Seat has unveiled a stunning third generation Leon family hatchback to arrive in late 2012 – and is promising a better cabin.

The previous car still has exterior presence, but an upgraded interior will be welcomed by dealers and would-be buyers, plus news that three-door and estate versions will be offered as well as a five-door this time round.

Get a Steed for just £1 deposit

BUYING the Chinese-made Great Wall Steed pick-up – the most affordable 4x4 double-cab pick-up on UK sale – has been made even easier by a new finance offer calling for a deposit of just £1.

In the case of the entry level Steed S model (£13,998 after tax deductions) that is then followed by 59 monthly payments of £285.06 (total £16,818.54).

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11 11	**Insignia 2.0 CDTi Excite** 5892 miles	£12,887
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LOOKING THE PART: Current Skoda line-up (left to right): Octavia, Fabia, Citigo, Yeti, Roomster mini MPV and Superb which will soon be joined by the all-new Rapid

Skoda keeps getting the last laugh

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

SKODA aims to close 2012 with a bang by boasting a further leap in sales and launching two all-new models.

The VW-owned Czech marque posted a record UK market share of 2.3 per cent in 2011, and is well on course to exceed that this year, helped by the recent arrival of the Citigo city car and a new Rapid saloon model by the end of 2012.

The former is a completely new departure for the brand, while the Rapid will fit into the current line-up above the Fabia supermini, allowing the Octavia hatch/estate family range to shift up in size when the third generation car arrives in 2013.

These alterations to the line-up will take the range to seven models, making Skoda a major player in the market and a long way from being the laughing stock of the industry during the Communist era.

Its new status as a modern motoring success story was underlined by domination of the recent AutoExpress Car of the Year awards, where the Citigo took overall Car of the Year 2012, and there were category wins for the Citigo (best city car), Superb (best family car) and Superb Estate (best estate).

Skoda also took the Driver Power Award again, with the Yeti SUV voted number one car for owner satisfaction.

Skoda brand director Alasdair Steward said: "To win the Driver Power Award for the fourth year in succession shows that we're doing a great job of keeping buyers happy."

The brand is on an impressive awards roll at present: 18 major awards in 2011, and eight awards so far this year.

TOPS: Jason and Kim with their new Citigo

Citigo's a winner

LAUNCHING the new Skoda Citigo was celebrated at this year's four-day Goodwood Festival of Speed, with a new car given away every day.

One of the lucky competition winners was Kent man Jason Chatfield and partner Kim of Hadlow, near Tonbridge, seen here collecting the car from Skoda dealer Caffyns of Tunbridge Wells,

General manager at the dealership, Mark Dunn said: "This adds to excitement generated by the Citigo. It's simply the right car for these times – a sensible car, well-priced (from £7,495) and cheap to run."

But he added, this didn't mean everyone was going for the cheapest model: "Two-thirds of our Citigo customers are trading up the range; they want a small car, but want the comforts of a bigger car, and to personalise it. The Citigo can do that."

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Option final payment	£3,587.48
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Rate of interest	6.40% fixed

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***Citigo S starts from £7,630 OTR. Model shown is a Citigo SE 1.0 60PS 5spd Manual including optional metallic paint, Style Pack 2, Summer Pack and Winter Pack — £10,840. Price is correct at time of going to print.** **Up to 3 years or 30,000 miles (whichever comes first) free servicing. †Available when purchased with Solutions and hire purchase. Terms and conditions apply. 7.9% APR representative. Available on new retail orders subject to availability before 30th September 2012. ^Payable with first payment. ^^Payable within optional final payment. #4.4p per mile excess charges apply. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available for over 18s only in the UK. Excludes the Channel Islands. ŠKODA Finance. Freepost ŠKODA Finance. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Citigo: Urban 50.4 (5.6) – 56.5 (5.0), Extra Urban 70.6 (4.0) – 78.5 (3.6), Combined 62.8 (4.5) – 68.9 (4.1). Citigo CO_2 emissions 105 – 96 g/km.

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Fuel economy figures for the Juke 1.6 TEKNA 5 DOOR mpg (L/100km): Urban - 36.7 (7.7), Extra Urban - 55.4 (5.1), Combined - 47.1 (6.0), CO_2 emissions 139 g/km. Qashqai 1.6 VISIA 5 DOOR Urban - 35.8 (7.9), Extra Urban - 54.3 (5.2), Combined - 45.6 (6.2), CO_2 emissions 144 g/km.

Offers valid until 30 September 2012 at participating dealers only. Finance is available subject to status on eligible new vehicles in the UK. Offer available on Hire Purchase only. MINIMUM UNDERPOINT OF 20% ON JUKE AND QASHQAI. Guarantees and future values may be required. Finance provided by RCI Financial Services Limited, PO Box 100, Watford WD17 1SL. You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding Isle of Man and Channel Islands) to apply. Our dealerships introduce customers to a limited number of finance providers including RCI Financial Services Ltd. Finance providers may be introducing you to their 3 years' low cost servicing at £299 available on Juke and Qashqai 1.5. Breakdown services provided by AIRC Motoring Services and/or AIRC Insurance Ltd. All prices include but exclude road fund licence. Information correct at time of going to print. Not available in conjunction with any other offers, please visit www.nissan.co.uk or your local dealer for information. Model shots shown are for illustrative purposes only. Models subject to availability. Juke shown has optional metallic paint at £475 inc. VAT. Qashqai shown has metallic paint at £500 inc. VAT. Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9YS.

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VAUXHALL

CRICKET

England duo leading the way as next generation is tipped for a bright future

By Greg Miles
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IT will be a proud day for everyone involved with Kent Cricket Club on August 11.

While some will be focusing on the following day's fixture against Derbyshire in the CB40, most will be wondering just how the county's young proteges Adam Ball, and Daniel Bell-Drummond are faring in the Under-19 Cricket World Cup in Australia.

Both will be key members of the squad, which Ball is captain of, and Bell-Drummond the star batsman.

One man sure to have a proud smile on his face is head of the county's high performance programme Simon Willis who as well as other staff, has overseen their development.

"It's a proud day for everyone," he said. "There are a lot of people involved in their development - we wish them all the best.

"Kent has always been a county that's wanted to produce players for international age groups. We've got a good track record as nationally we've had a number at under 19 level going back to Rob Key who was one of our earliest ones."

What's all the more pleasing is that those two are not the first to have emerged from Willis' setup. In recent years Joe Denly and Paul Dixey have made the big breakthrough.

And the list doesn't stop there with the likes of Sam Northeast, Adam Riley, Sam Billings, Chris Piesley, Matt Coles and Alex Blake being called upon for first team duties, having all been under the eye of Willis.

Willis believes it can be a bright future for the first team if those youngsters can be persuaded to stick around.

"All the time they have success other counties are going to be interested," he said. "We need to keep this group together, there's a group that could play together for ten years plus.

"All I can do is produce too many players and when they get into the first team environment Jimmy (Adams) and Keysey (Rob Key) can allow them to continue their growth. It's down to them to take those opportunites at first team level."

He praised Adams' approach to the second team setup and for giving the youngsters a chance when they've proven worthy.

"It's very easy I must say," he said. "He's shown good interest in what's underneath. Our relationship is going forwards in a positive way, he's very passionate about the game and he wants young players to be developed through the county system."

He pinpointed a number of small changes in recent years which have made a big difference in preparing players for the step up.

"I set myself three years to put an infrastructure in place to bring a few lads through and we are about getting to that stage," he said. "I'm very happy with how things are moving forward since I started in October 2009.

"It was subtle changes rather than revolutionary ideas, raising people's awareness of what's at first class level. The bar was a bit low before."

While he is happy players have played on merit, he admits there has been more of a chance in recent years because of the financial state of the club.

"The club has gone through a successful period, between 2005 and 2009, when there was less opportunity, but in recent years they've played their part because of the needs of the county.

"If we are realistic there has been a financial angle to it, the club has been through tough times, it's created opportunities but once players got in they took their oppopirtnities - Adam Ball played every game he was available for last year.

"The big step is when you get onto the professional staff, it can be quite a big step for some guys, you've got to have the character and mental strength to deal with it."

•England get their campaign underway against defending champions Australia on August 11, and then take on Ireland the following day before their final game against Nepal on August 16.

KENT PROSPECTS TO HEAD WORLD CUP CHARGE

ADAM BALL: Ball will have the proud honour of leading his country on the international stage, but it's not the first time he has been to the tournament. As a 16-year-old he represented the under-19 side on the world stage in New Zealand two years ago.

Back then he played a lesser part in the side having been called up as a replacement for an injured team mate, taking one wicket and making 22 runs as the young side went out to the West Indies in the Super Quarter Finals.

The talented all-rounder has been a regular feature for Kent's one day side this season taking 10 wickets in his last eight games.

He captained England at the Quadrangular Series in April and was his nation's third highest run scorer with 111, making him 12th in the list of top batsmen at the tournament.

DANIEL BELL-DRUMMOND: The 18-year-old will be a vital part of the England side in Australia.

His name would have been among the first on the list having first appeared for the under-19s as a 16-year-old, and having gone on to become England's all-time highest run-scorer in ODIs at under-19 level.

The opener made a huge impact down under in the Quadrangular Series in April, impressing with notable knocks in the side which was knocked out in the semi-finals by eventual winners India.

The hosts will certainly know what he is about as he hit an unbeaten 103 in a three wicket win over the Aussies in the tournament.

It's no surprise therefore that he topped the runs charts with 287 from the five games.

Pictures: ADY KERRY

LEADING THE WAY: Kent coach Simon Willis

OLYMPIC

Australian athletes happy to call Tonbridge coffee shops home in preparation for the Olympic Games

Picture: PAUL JERREAT

GOLD: Sally Pearson is tipped for top spot

THE coffee shops of Tonbridge will have a lot to answer for if Australia sweep up in the medal stakes at the Olympics next week.

Some of the Aussies' top athletes have been scoping out the top cafes in the town from their base at Tonbridge School for some down time after their training sessions.

In particular the marathon runners have been spotted sipping cups of coffee after taking in the scenic routes around Penshurst in morning runs.

"There is a big coffee culture," said Jessica Trengrove, who is competing at her first Olympics. "The afternoons are free for us, we've found a few nice coffee shops, the people have been really friendly as well."

She is joined at the school by a host of gold medal hopes including Steve Hooker, who took gold in the pole vault in Beijing, 100m hurdler Sally Pearson, and long jumper Mitchell Watt.

Watt admitted he didn't even watch the long jump on television at the Beijing Olympics, but is hoping for a place on the podium at the London Games.

The 24-year-old said he was happy with the training camp at the school, and the support from the students as well.

"I asked for a fridge one day in my room and an hour later we had a fridge, they have been extremely helpful," he said. "I was training the other day and one of the students told me I looked a bit slow, so I ran a bit faster on the next one.

"I didn't even watch the long jump (in Beijing) which is a bit weird because if it was on now, even if I wasn't involved, I'd be up all night watching it. I think that sort of sums up my transition from a few years ago.

"When I was younger I'd have been excited about things like how much kit you get given, but when you get it now it's just another bump in the road and you know the real deal's in two weeks.

"I definitely think I can win the gold but I wouldn't be disappointed with a silver or a bronze. I want to be on the podium, and the higher the better."

Pole vaulter Alana Boyd, who is taking part in her second Games, visited the school last year.

"It's a great school and we are more than happy to be here. The facilities are fantastic," she said. "My main goal is to make the final and get close to my personal best, anything more than that will be a bonus."

Susan Boyd, section manager for the athletics team, hailed it as a perfect location for the athletes to relax and train in equal measure.

She said: "We think it's fantastic, everything is first class, the accommodation is good, the meals have been good, and the school staff have bent over backwards for us.

"We have got the mix right that they are not so bored, there is something to do here, but there are not too many distractions."

FOOTBALL

Flexible Strevens happy to assist in any role for Gills

By Greg Miles
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UTILITY attacker Ben Strevens doesn't care where he plays as long as he's named in the starting 11.

The 32-year-old, who put pen to paper last week for a one-year deal, links up with Martin Allen for the second time in his career having played under him for a season at Barnet.

Also in his side at Underhill were Barry Fuller and Ross Flitney, while he and Lewis Montrose were promoted together at Wycombe Wanderers three years ago.

It was a key factor in his decision to come to Priestfield, but he knows he will have to fight for his place in the side with striker Adam Birchall coming back to fitness after a year out, and Danny Kedwell leading the club's scoring charts last season with 14 goals.

However, his adaptability could see him become a key part of Allen's side as he can play on either wing, as a target man, or main striker, and is more than happy to act as the playmaker for his team mates.

"I've played here, there and everywhere," he said. "If I'm playing up front week in and week out I like to think I can get double figures, and anything from there is a target.

"I always like to play in the hole, it's quite lucky I can do that. If I get in the team anywhere I will be happy. If I play in that hole I link play up, the main thing is you have got to work hard, hopefully I can pop up with a few goals."

With promotion a priority this year, Strevens certainly knows what it takes, having achieved the feat three times, at Dagenham and Redbridge, Barnet, and Wycombe. He pinpointed team spirit as a huge asset for a side gunning for the top, and knows new boss Allen will bring that to the side.

He said. "It's going to be the ones willing to work for each other who will come out on top.

"He's (Martin Allen) great around the place, everyday is fun, but it's going to be tough, he's good on his fitness and getting the team spirit together. I really did enjoy the way we played (at Barnet), all being well it's going to be a good season at the club."

Picture: ADY KERRY

REUNITED: Strevens played for Martin Allen at Barnet, and also links up for former team mates

FOOTBALL

FUTURE: Martin Dack hit 26 goals last year

Dack set to stay with Gills as youngsters get ready for men's game

MARTIN Allen has hinted that Gillingham youngster Bradley Dack, 18, could be part of his first team plans this year.

The midfielder was a stand out player in Darren Hare's youth team last season, netting 26 goals in total.

And it seems he has carried on that run, netting in the behind-closed doors game against Dagenham and Redbridge last week before hitting four against the Royal Engineers on Wednesday.

While Allen is keen to give some of the youngsters a taste of 'men's' football in non-league he isn't sure whether he can let last season's youth team captain Dack leave just yet.

He insists the door is always open for youngsters to force their way into his plans.

He said: "We had a little kid from the youth team, he (Dack) just kept scoring in training so we put him in the team, it doesn't matter if senior players aren't happy, it's the same from the goalkeeper to the centre forward.

"Old age might be a barrier, but we are open to all of it, there are some good young players here, we've got to incorporate them and bring them in.

"Some have got to go out on loan, there's a group in a few weeks time who will play non-league football, men's football, where it matters against men in the real world. We will review them again at Christmas."

When asked whether Dack would be one of those going on loan he said: "He got 26 goals from midfield, scored against Dagenham, nearly scored against Dartford, that's a tough one, I'm not sure we should get rid of him."

He also has three goalkeepers at his disposal with the arrival of Stuart Nelson on a free transfer, Tommy Forecast on a season-long loan as part of the deal which saw Paulo Gazzaniga join Southampton, and Ross Flitney who was injured for the second half of last season and is out for the next month with injury.

But Allen hasn't decided who his number one will be yet.

"I don't even know who's going to play in the team to be honest," he said. "He's (Forecast) a good goalkeeper, good presence, 6ft 5in.

"We will see how he does, if he's better than Stuart Nelson he'll play, and Stuart knows that, I don't care who they are, they'll play."

MOTORSPORT

Perfect weekend as Shakey claims double win at Brands

SHANE Byrne has praised his team for helping him to double victory at his home circuit of Brands Hatch.

The Sheppey rider booked his place in the end of season Showdown rides by winning both races, for the first time this season, at the circuit.

The 35-year-old fended off a challenge from Yamaha's Noriyuki Haga and then the Suzuki of Josh Brookes in the opening race, and controlled the second race to win from Brookes and championship leader Tommy Hill to consolidate second place in the standings.

"A double victory is always good but to do it at my home circuit, in the sunshine and in front of a big local crowd is fantastic," he said. "We knew we had work to do after Oulton Park, and the team have worked their butts off to address the problems we had so they deserve this as much as anyone.

"We have scored some good Podium Credits this weekend and it's vital we continue that into Cadwell Park next month, as there's still a long way to go in this championship."

Byrne and Aussie rider Brookes confirmed their places as title fighters in the Showdown, joining defending champion Tommy Hill, meaning there are three places still available.

Michael Laverty in fourth has a 48 point lead over Tommy Bridewell in fifth, while Haga is sixth ahead of the next round of the championship at Cadwell Park on the August Bank Holiday.

But just 38 points separate Bridewell from 11th placed James Westmoreland with a total of 100 points still up for grabs before the Showdown.

SHOWDOWN: Byrne in title race

MOTORSPORT

Pembury ace is AutoGP champ with races to go

ADRIAN Quaife-Hobbs has won the 2012 AutoGP Championship with two races still remaining.

The 21-year-old from Pembury has dominated the 14-race series with five victories, and cannot be beaten whatever his results are in the final rounds in California in September.

He started on pole position in Brazil, his fifth of the season, but he had to settle for a sixth place after a wheel change cost him too much time.

He also endured a miserable second race which he failed to finish having led for 19 laps.

After taking the lead from the second row of the grid he looked good for the win, but he missed the braking point on entering the pits, meaning he clipped the grass and careered into the tyre barrier to end his race.

But it didn't matter as the Supernova Racing driver was crowned series champion with two races to spare.

"Naturally I'm very happy to have won the series, with two rounds remaining, but I really wanted to win the series with a race victory," he said. "Our pace in practice and qualifying showed that once again we were more than capable of doing that, but for a number of problems, we were denied that in race one. In the second race, everything was going really well but I just misjudged the braking on the entry to the pit lane."

DOMINANT: Quaife-Hobbs won five

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